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THE MISTRESS OF THE HOUSE.

BY LESLIE WALTER.

The guests are come, all silent they have waited,
Entering the noiseless hush with silent bows,
They linger for her coming, sore belated—
Where is the little mistress of the house?

She is not wont to leave her friends so lonely
That come too seldom as she gaily vows;
Yet they are here, and wait her pleasure only—
Where is the little mistress of the house?

She cannot be far off—perhaps but sleeping;
Doubtless at their low call she would arouse;
Why do they summon her alone with weeping?
Where is the little mistress of the house?

The portraits stare behind their veiling covers;
The dust is in the melancholy room.
Upon the air a ghastly silence hovers—
Within the threshold loneliness and gloom.

Cold, dark and desolate the place without her,
Wanting her gentle smile as each allows,
She bears a sunbeam light and warmth about her—
Where is the little mistress of the house?

The curtains fall, undraped by her slight fingers,
Behind the wainscot gnaws a secret mouse,
Her treasures need her care, but still she lingers,
Where is the little mistress of the house?

Alas! there was a rumor and a whisper
Threading the busy town, this many days;
The youngest baby here, a tiny lisper,
Can falter forth the reason why she stays.

Why care and love, the tenderest and sincerest,
Have failed to shield and guard her fair young head
Why she has fled from all she loved the dearest—
For there has been a rumor, she is dead.

Throw wide the door! Within the gloomy portal,
Where her small feet fell light as falling snow,
They bear her in, the mortal made immortal!
She comes again, but heavenly and slow!

O empty shell! O beautiful frail prison!
Cold, white and vacant, tenantless and dumb,
From such poor clay as this has Christ arisen—
For such as this He shall in glory come!

But in the calm indifference to our sorrow,
In the sharp anguish of her parting breath,
In the dark gulf that hides her from to-morrow,
Thou hast thy victory, Grave; thy sting, O Death!

Yet shall she walk so fair that we who knew her,
Would pale before the glory of her brows,
Nor in the radiant beauty dare to woo her,
To be again the mistress of the house.

Mrs. Lumpkin's Purple Silk.

A heavy, rustling, overbearing, aggressive shining, purple silk, scenting of operas, lace shawls, and chandeliers. Naturally, it was not well out of its wrapper when it began to bully us—that is, my wife, Mrs. Pleiades Lumpkin, and I. What, indeed, could such a silk be to a house with a three-ply carpet and an unmistakable flavor of dinner in its best room but an insult, insilkate?

Why did Mrs. Lumpkin buy it? The *Bazar*, being a feminine oracle, may divine. For my own part, I have never yet succeeded in resolving a woman's "because" into anything like a reason. From my view, nothing could have been more inappropriate. When the makers of that silk laid the threads together, and chose the tints, doubtless they had the wearer in mind—a round, rosy dame, stepping down from her coach with an air and a train. Apart from the facts of our little house, its "three-ply," and hair-cloth furniture, is Mrs. Pleiades that woman? On the contrary, she is an anxious woman. She has careful lines about the mouth, come of helping me in that long pull and strong pull needed to make both ends of our income meet. She has neither the roses, the swing, nor the plump contours. If she were a book, her title would be, "Thoughts on Pennyworths." You see, then, that whenever she wore it, this opulent silk must be a sly and constant satire upon her.

I have been speaking only of the silk in the raw, as it lay yet in its wrappings. Now it is true that it convicted us, whenever we looked at it, of our utter shabbiness. Still we had it then at a certain disadvantages. Mrs. Pleiades could do what she liked with it—make it into a coverlet if she pleased, and leave it to flout our imitation walnut bedstead and brown wall-paper. But for silks as for human beings there is no standing still. Following the lead of its destiny it must devlop into a dress. From that moment it began to require:—

First, a dress-maker. Mrs. Pleiades habitually made her own dresses; but from the very beginning it was so evident that she had nothing in common with her silk that she engaged a dress-maker without delay. The dress-maker was a great creature. She took my wife's measure—I mean her social measure—at a glance. She handled "the silk" audaciously, and threw my wife into an agony by suggesting that the pattern was short. She was a perfect Nena Sahib in our little domicile. She destroyed our petty illusions, and our modest aspirations, with a certain pleasure worthy of that monster. She *would* talk to us, poor minnows, of nothing but whales. She roused Mrs. Pleiades to a maddening envy of certain ladies whom she had never seen in her life. Finally she decreed that the dress should be piped, and trimmed with satin and lace.

Piped! Mrs. Pleiades came to me about. My notion was of some such subterranean network as is under the pavements, a substitute for crinoline, perhaps, or something just discovered to be healthy.

"What are the pipes made for?" I asked in all innocence; "and won't they be weighty to carry about my dear?"

And I protest I never was so astonished as when Mrs. Pleiades flew out in a rage, and vowed "that I had no sympathy, and was laughing at her."

The dress was piped out of our little fund in bank. Mrs. Pleiades had not once thought of trimmings. She had achieved the silk by months of clipping shillings here and hoarding pennies there: it was the one blossom of her self-denial. There was nothing left for leaves and buds. Nena Sahib scouted Mrs. Pleiades's timid suggestions of trimming with the silk, or of no trimming; and we were always at the disadvantage with this dress that we should have been with a white elephant or a fairy unexpectedly quartered upon us. Knowing nothing of the habits of the animal, we must believe whatever was told us concerning it.

So the dress was piped, and besprinkled with velvet and lace, and when Nena Sahib was paid also, it became clear that I should wear my old overcoat this winter. But who would not forego a new overcoat for the pleasure of teaching his wife a lesson?

A dress finished is the child come to man's estate. You know then where to rank it. Mrs. Pleiades's silk had become a dinner dress. But Mrs. Pleiades lays the cloth, broils the steak, and bakes the bread herself. Could Mrs. Pleiades broil and bake in a purple silk, piped and trimmed with satin? Or could Mrs. Pleiades, having dished the dinner in a calico, rush to her wardrobe and array herself in the purple silk, while the gravy cooled, and I thumped on the table? Or could Mrs. Pleiades wear the purple silk when she took her sewing of an evening across the way, or when "across the way" came over to us? No, a thousand times no. You may take liberties with an alpaca: there is adaptability in a merino; but it was not to be expected that Mrs. Pleiades's silk should conform to us. We were to conform to the silk. It was made for grand occasions. We were to manufacture the grand occasions. For people of our stamp there is but one grand occasion, and that is going to church.

But to what shall I liken this insatiable silk; It was like the relentless step-mother in the fairy tales. When the poor child has wound the tangled skein as thick as four persons, she must separate in their order thousands of mixed feathers, and when the feathers are in order she must find strawberries under the ice. One difficulty only hid another behind it. What should Mrs. Pleiades wear with the purple silk? Mrs. Pleiades has worn her cloak for three winters and it is brown. Mrs. Pleiades's bonnet is two winters old and it is green; and I think I have already hinted that we had exhausted our fund in the bank. Those were days of trial for Mrs. Pleiades. If wishing were a power, the brown cloak and green bonnet must have turned purple under our eyes. She ransacked the trunks and rag-bags; she pored over the fashion-plates; she shut herself up of evenings. I, on my part, watched her struggles with solicitude, and blindly rejoiced when informed that she had an idea. In all our wedded life I had never seen Mrs. Pleiades so careworn and harassed.

My wife has always been a model of punctuality. At precisely a quarter of 10 she is ready to start for church. But on this Sunday—I am referring to the first appearance of the purple silk—she was late. She came down in a flustered state, and rather avoided my eyes as we went out of the door. I respected her nervousness, and talked about the weather, and it was only by degrees, and after quiet glances from under my hat brim, that I came to a definite conclusion regarding her appearance.

Something had happened to Mrs. Pleiades's cloak. It had always been a large, matronly, cozy wrap, the sort of cloak for which you might feel an actual friendship, and by which you might know Mrs. Pleiades any where, and in my secret heart I had always fancied that she produced in it a majestic and imposing effect. Now it was short, it had sleeves, it had shrunken in about her. It looked as if, stricken with sudden terror by the purple silk, it had attempted to end its wretched existence, and only stopped in the mad attempt just below Mrs. Pleiades's waist. The effect was disastrous. Mrs. Pleiades is accustomed to fullness and folds about the shoulders, and in her skimped diminished condition was plainly at a loss how to dispose of her hands and arms. She was equally troubled with her train! Worthy woman, what had she to do with trains? She was doubtful about the gorgeous silk among the sober walking-dresses around her. She wondered what people said of her brown cloak and green bonnet. She wished that her gloves were fresher, and that they were not black. If she had committed murder, she could hardly have looked more conscious and uncomfortable. Mrs. Pleiades's savings, our fund in bank, her anxieties, researches, and struggles, had only made her ridiculous and uncomfortable.

You think, my dear Madam, that I had better have listened to the sermon than to sit there poking fun at my wife? But I was not poking fun. I was pondering, as became a philosopher, on one of the deepest mysteries in the feminine make-up. Mrs. Pleiades is a fair example, not a notable exception, to the rest of womankind. Plenty of women there are like her, for whom, given a merino, and the result is happiness; given a silk, and the result is misery. Why will nine out of ten of such women choose the silk? I am convinced, by wretched experiences, that there is some perverse domestic demon who breaks the bottle in the medicine chest that is to be wanted next in the middle of the night, and keeps the trunk in which are the children's night-clothes when part of your baggage is left behind. Can there be a similar shopping-demon, airily promenading beside the walking clerks, and maliciously deciding the wavering woman in the plain shawl and the puzzled, apple-cheeked country girl secretly counting her money under the shelter of a pile of cloakings? —*Harper's Bazar.*

The Mercer County Commissioners have purchased the property of the late General Forker, on the south side of the public square in Mercer, for the purpose of erecting a new jail.

GRANT.

Interesting Fragments of Unpublished History.

Extracts from Badeau's Life of General Grant.[*]

FACTS ABOUT SHILOH.

Important Documents and Dispatches Never Before Printed.

General Grant Suspended by General Halleck Three Times in Five Months.

SHILOH.

General Grant's report of the battle of Shiloh has never been published, although the other official reports and sub-reports were printed, in pursuance of a resolution of Congress, a short time after the engagement. We were informed that General Grant had not had time to write his report. It may, however, have been kept at Halleck's headquarters.

Most of our readers will remember the cool disparagement of Grant and his army exhibited in Buell's report of the battle, and the sharp taunts in Nelson's report. General Badeau now furnishes the information upon which General Grant's defense, if he should ever make one, would probably be based. General Badeau's account of the battle is extremely graphic. We confine ourselves, however, in the following extracts (pp. 67—68) to those points which have heretofore been matters of dispute.

On the 13th of March, Grant was relieved from his disgrace; and on the 17th he removed his headquarters to Savannah, and wrote to Sherman from that place: "I have just arrived, and although sick for the last two weeks, begin to feel better at the thought of being again with the troops." The attention of the rebels in this part of the country had now become concentrated upon Grant's forces, which threatened to obtain possession of the entire Southwest, unless speedily opposed. Troops in great numbers were accordingly hurried to Corinth, and the enemy was evidently preparing in his turn to assume the offensive. To counteract this, Gen. Buell's command was included in that of Halleck, and Buell himself, with five divisions, numbering nearly forty thousand men, was ordered to Nashville, to support Grant. And there was imminent need of such support.

The movements of Buell, however, were seldom expeditious. As early as the 16th of March, Halleck had informed Grant: "Gen. Buell is marching in this direction;" and on the 20th, "Buell is at Columbia, and will move on Waynesboro with three divisions." On the 19th, Grant wrote to Buell: "There is every reason to suppose that the rebels have a large force at Corinth, and many at other points on the road towards Decatur." On the 26th he informed Halleck: "My scouts are just in with a letter from General Buell. The three divisions coming this way are yet on the east side of Duck River, detailed bridge-building." On the 27th: "I have no news yet of any portion of General Buell's command being this side of Columbia." On the 31st: "Two soldiers from the head of McCook's command (of Buell's army) came in this evening. Some of this command crossed Duck River, on the 29th, and established guards eight miles out that night." On the same day (the 31st), he sent word to McCook: "I have been looking for your column anxiously for several days." On the 3d of April he was finally able to inform Halleck that "a dispatch from the telegraphic operator is just in. He states that General Nelson (commanding Buell's foremost division,) is in sight. The advance will arrive probably on Saturday," (April 5th). The distance Buell had to march from Columbia, was ninety miles; it took him from the 19th of March to the 6th of April, seventeen days; he was delayed, bridge building, and by bad roads, and he had no knowledge that Grant was in any extraordinary danger, or had any immediate intention of attacking the enemy. His usual deliberation was not more liable to criticism at this crisis, than upon all other occasions.

* * * * *

Halleck's instructions to Grant had continued very positive, not to bring on a general engagement until Buell should arrive; and several expeditions, some suggested by Halleck, and others by Grant, were countermanded or forbidden by the former, lest a battle should be provoked. In accordance with these directions, Grant remained strictly on the defensive, although he did not concur with the views of his superior. On the 23d of March, he wrote to Smith: "Carry out your idea of occupying, and particularly, fortifying, Pea Ridge. I do not hear one word from St. Louis. I am clearly of the opinion that the enemy are gathering strength at Corinth, quite as rapidly as we are here, and, the sooner we attack, the easier will be the task of taking the place. If Ruggles is in command, it would assuredly be a good time to attack."

There was skirmishing daily after the 3d of April, and on the 4th, the enemy felt Sherman's front in force, but nothing serious came of it, and the opinion of that commander was decided that no probability of an immediate engagement existed. Grant rode out on the day after, to Sherman's lines, and concurred with him in this judgment. They were both mistaken, for the skirmish was the reconnoissance of the enemy, preliminary to the battle of Shiloh. This affair, however, awoke attention, and put both officers and men on the alert. As Grant was riding back from the front to Pittsburgh Landing, after dark on the 4th, the night being rainy, his horse slipped in crossing a log, and fell on his rider, who received in consequence a severe contusion. This lamed him for over a week, and also occasioned him acute pain for several days.

* * * * *

On Saturday, April 5th, the enemy's cavalry was again very bold, coming well down to Sherman's front. This day the head of Nelson's column arrived at Savannah, and Nelson himself reported to Grant, who in person directed him to march his command to a position south of Savannah, and about five miles from the point opposite Pittsburgh Landing; there, he was to hold himself in readiness to reinforce the army on the left bank in case of need. The order was obeyed, and Grant having made all his preparations for removing his headquarters to Pittsburgh on the morrow, remained to meet Buell, as that officer had desired.

* * * * *

At daybreak, on the morning of the 6th of April, General Albert Sidney Johnston, in command of the rebel forces, having marched from Corinth three days before, attacked the lines at Shiloh. Grant and his staff were breakfasting early, and their horses were saddled, preparatory to riding out in search of Buell; the heavy firing was heard, of course, for Pittsburgh Landing is only nine miles from Savannah, by the river, and not more than six in a direct line. An order was instantly dispatched to General Nelson to move his entire command to the river bank, opposite Pittsburgh; and Grant went aboard a transport at seven o'clock, and started in person for the front, first sending a note to Buell in these words: "Heavy firing is heard up the river, indicating plainly that an attack has been made upon our most advanced positions. I have been looking for this, but did not believe the attack could be made before Monday or Tuesday. This necessitates my joining the forces up the river, instead of meeting you to-day, as I had contemplated. I have directed General Nelson to move to the river with his division. He can march to opposite Pittsburgh." On his way up the river, Grant stopped at Crump's Landing to see Lewis Wallace, and notified him in person of the undoubted fact, which had not yet been officially reported, that a general engagement had begun, and that Wallace must hold himself in readiness to march to the support of the main army at Pittsburgh, or if the attack there should prove a feint, to defend himself against a probable movement upon him, from the direction of Purdy, his situation being isolated, and somewhat exposed. Wallace replied that he would be in readiness for any orders which he might receive. This interview took place on the transport. Grant then hurried on to the landing at Pittsburgh, arriving there at about eight o'clock. He rode at once to the front.

The rebel onset had begun in force, and with tremendous vigor. Prentiss was first attacked, and then Sherman; but Prentiss having been warned, had doubled his grand guards the night before, and pushed out his pickets a mile and a half; he formed his division in advance of its camps, and there it received the first assault. Sherman, too, having been skirmishing since the 4th, was promptly under arms, and the other division commanders, admonished by the movements of the last few days, had their horses saddled, and were breakfasting early to be ready in case of an attack[†]. They at once put their commands into line. The entire national force on the ground at the time of the assault, was thirty-three thousand effective men. Lewis Wallace had about five thousand more, at Crump's Landing, making Grant's whole force between fifty and sixty regiments. Grant estimated the enemy's strength at sixty-five thousand men, or one hundred and sixty-two regiments and battalions. Beauregard afterwards reported it at forty thousand three hundred and fifty-five. The troops, though so furiously attacked, as yet held their original ground. Word was instantly sent to Nelson and Lewis Wallace of the state of affairs, and imperative orders given them to advance at once, and with all speed. To Nelson the order was in writing: "You will hurry up your command as fast as possible. The boats will be in readiness to transport all troops of your command across the river. All looks well, but it is necessary for you to push forward as fast as possible." A staff officer was dispatched to General Wallace, with verbal directions for him to march by the nearest road parallel to the river.

* * * * *

Grant was on every part of the field in person, constantly under fire, and making unwearied exertions to maintain his position, until Nelson and Lewis Wallace should get up, but the national forces were slowly losing ground each hour. In no place had the line been pierced, but in no place, had its original position of the morning been retained. The rebels were stunned and retarded, here and there, and the battle raged for a while, parts of the line being raged with more tenacity than others, "brigades here, giving way, and there, holding the enemy's advance. Still, if only Nelson and Lewis Wallace would come up, the day might even yet be saved. Messengers were again sent to these delinquent commanders, but although Nelson had been ordered to march at seven in the morning, he did not start till half past one P. M., while the sound of the enemy's cannon was constant in his ears; *a reason for this delay has never been assigned.* Lewis Wallace, one of Grant's own division commanders, was equally remiss; but he, who had been a month on the ground, excused himself by stating that he had taken the wrong road, marching towards Purdy instead of to Pittsburgh; yet his troops had helped build the bridge over Snake Creek, for just such emergencies as had now occurred. He was, however, set right by Captain (afterwards Lieutenant Colonel) Rowley and Colonel (afterwards Major General) McPherson, both at the time on General Grant's staff; they put him in the right direction at one o'clock, and it took him till seven that night, to march five miles in the direction of the battle, though the cannonading was heard at Nashville, a hundred miles away.

In a letter on this subject to the War Department, dated April 13, 1863, General Grant says: "Had General Wallace been relieved from duty in the morning, and the same order communicated to Brigadier General Morgan L. Smith, who would have been his successor, I do not doubt but the division would have been on the field of battle and in the engagement by one o'clock that eventful 6th of April. There is no estimating the difference this might have made in our casualties." When Wallace was finally set right, he absolutely countermarched his entire column, instead of facing it about."

During the morning Grant sent the following order to General Wood, another of Buell's division commanders, who, he learned, had arrived at Savannah: "You will move your command with the utmost dispatch to the river at this point, where steamboats will be in readiness to transport you to Pittsburgh;" and still later, another dispatch was sent; "Commanding officer, advance forces. Buell's army, near Pittsburgh. The attack on my forces has been very spirited from early this morning. The appearance of fresh troops in the field now, would have a powerful effect, both by inspiring our men and disheartening the enemy. If you will get upon the field, leaving all your baggage on the east bank of the river, it will be more to our advantage, and possibly save the day to us. The rebel forces are estimated at over one hundred thousand men. My headquarters will be in the log building on the top of the hill, where you will be furnished a staff officer to guide you to your place on the field."

Midway in the afternoon, General Buell arrived in person. He had reached Savannah with another division, and finding Grant had left, and a violent battle was raging, came on at once to the front, in advance of his troops. Buell was the junior of Grant, but had hitherto enjoyed a more important command; his directions did not make him subordinate to Grant, except in the actual presence of the enemy. He probably felt somewhat chagrined at being obliged to receive orders from one whom he had previously regarded as an inferior; his manner was cold and formal, but he spared no exertions to carry out Grant's directions, and displayed commendable alacrity and earnestness for success. All around the Landing, lay the cravens who had swarmed in from the front, as many do in nearly every battle; these, however, were not stragglers nor laggards, but the panic-stricken mob, who had fled from that danger which so many of their fellows seem to court. As the two Generals were conversing at the Landing, Grant explained the situation of affairs, then apparently at the worst; and Buell inquired: "What preparations have you made for retreating, General?" His remark may not have been concluded, for Grant interrupted him at once, exclaiming: "*I haven't despaired of whipping them yet.*" Buell, perhaps, was no more despondent than Grant, but, at that moment, his own forces were a long way off, and his mind naturally turned to considerations of a defensive sort, while Grant's characteristic mode of defense was the offensive. Buell then busied himself with hurrying up his own army.

* * * * *

Hurlbut's command, on the left, was repeatedly compelled to fall back, but raked the rebels well each time, when they charged. On Hurlbut's right, W. H. L. Wallace made a gallant stand, repelling four separate assaults, but was finally forced to give ground. These two divisions, for a while, stood between the whole army and destruction. All portions of the line were not constantly engaged, but there was no time, from 7 in the morning until dark, without heavy firing in some quarters of the field. The fierceness of the fight knew little variety; no splendid tactical science was displayed, but a grim determination on each side to stand up to the last; the rebels still driving in the national front, till, by 4 or 5 o'clock, the left was within half a mile of the Landing. But only in one instance was the line really pierced during all the eventful day. Hurlbut and W. H. L. Wallace, being forced to give way, connected on the outer flanks with the other portions of the command; but Prentiss, whose division lay between theirs, was more stubborn, and, although the line had retreated on each side of him, refused to yield his ground. His obstinacy was not good generalship, for he was thus left exposed, his two flanks in the air; and the enemy quickly seeing this, surrounded him; he was taken prisoner himself, along with four regiments. The men had behaved excellently all day, and their misfortune reflects no discredit on their gallantry. This happened at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

A little later, a desperate attack was made on the national left, not crowded back to cover the landing; the enemy had carried point after point, and ridge, after ridge, had reached the river and crossed Lick Creek, and the ravine formed the last defense; but, driven to bay, the national troops here offered a superb resistance, and though the enemy flung his lines again and again upon the barrier, again and again they broke like the sea when it strikes the shore. Had the national soldiers given way now all would have been lost; but, with their backs to the river, and no cover but the gunboats, discouraged doubtless with the ill success of the day, but grim and resolute still, they made here an unconquerable stand. The rebels, flushed with their triumph, and maddened at the sight of their expected prey, at times almost leaped the ravine, but their fury was all in vain; the assault was finally repulsed, and the disappointed column withdrew, shattered and torn, from the fruitless struggle, like a wounded tiger whose last fierce onslaught has failed.

A battery of artillery, well posted by Colonel Webster, of Grant's staff, did good service at this juncture, and the gunboats also were of importance, as they had been for some time previous, in checking the advance of the enemy on the extreme left. Both sides were now crippled and both fatigued, the extraordinary efforts of the day telling hard on either army. The rebel commander had fallen, and been succeeded by Beauregard; W. H. L. Wallace had been mortally wounded, on the national side; Sherman was slightly wounded; Grant had been struck, but not hurt, and at least ten thousand men in each army were either killed or wounded. It was nearly 5 o'clock, when Nelson's army crossed the river; but, after once starting his troops, this commander was prompt in marching them, and the men themselves were eager to get into battle.

* * * * *

When it was apparent that the battle was waning, Grant was at Sherman's front, and gave orders to renew the attack on the morrow. He considered that the strength of the enemy was nearly spent, and, with his usual tactics, determined in consequence to be the first to assault. I have often heard him declare that there comes a time in every hard fought battle when both armies are nearly or quite exhausted, and it seems impossible for either to do more; this he believed the turning point; whichever after first renews the fight is sure to win. He could not urge his jaded troops that night to any further assault, but his resolution was unshaken, and, although Buell's advance was not yet across the river, he gave positive orders to take the initiative in the morning. To Sherman he told the story of the Donelson battle; how, at a certain period, he saw that either side was ready to give way, if the other showed a bold front; and he determined, in consequence, to do that very thing—to advance at once on the enemy—when, as he had foreseen, the enemy surrendered. At four P. M., on the 6th of April he thought the appearances the same.

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In the night the whole of Nelson's column, and nearly all of McCook and Crittenden's divisions of Buell's army, were ferried across the river and put in position on the left of the line, relieving the shattered battalions that had borne the brunt of Sunday; this was a reinforcement of at least twenty thousand troops; they were commanded next day by Buell, who received his orders from General Grant. All night long the gunboats dropped shells inside the rebel lines, and the woods caught fire; no attempt could be made to care for the wounded, who lay on the blazing battle-field, a mile away, in the possession of the enemy; only a merciful storm of rain allayed the anguish of those whom no human help could reach, and relieve them from the danger of being burned alive. The troops slept on their arms, beneath the tempest, but the labor of reforming some commands, and posting those newly arrived, continued all night. Grant visited each division commander, including Nelson, after dark, directing the new position of each and repeating in person his orders for an advance at early dawn. He told each to "attack with a heavy skirmish line, as soon as it was light enough to see, and then to follow up with his entire command, leaving no reserves." Before midnight he returned to the Landing and lay on the ground, with his head against the stump of a tree, where he got thoroughly drenched by the storm, but slept soundly, confident of victory on the morrow.

* * * * *

AFTER THE BATTLE.

The battle decided little, except the fighting qualities of both combatants. It was the fiercest fight of the war, west of the Alleghenies, and, in proportion to the numbers engaged, equalled any contest during the rebellion. I have heard Sherman say that he never saw such terrible fighting afterwards, and Grant compared Shiloh only with the Wilderness. The ground remained in the hands of Grant, and, with the reinforcements that Buell brought, the national army was doubtless in vastly better condition than the rebels, after the battle. But Halleck arrived on the 9th, and at once took command of all the national forces, and he restrained any advance except behind breastworks; so that, whatever immediate results might have been reaped from the repulse of Beauregard, were lost. The moral effect of the fight was also impaired by this course. In the battle, each party was forced to respect the fighting qualities of the other; the Northerners recognized the impetuous vigor and splendid enthusiasm of the rebels, and the latter found all the tenacity and determination of the North in those who opposed them. This mutual respect remained, but the bad effect of Halleck's policy was, that it caused in the army a depression which should have been known only to the defeated, while it gave to the country an idea that the army had suffered an overthrow. But, whatever injury the spirit of the troops sustained, was the result of the distrust manifested by Halleck, and not of the victory of Shiloh.

GEN. GRANT'S VIEWS OF THE WAR.

Until this battle, Grant had supposed, as nearly every one else did at the North, that one or two victories for the Union would induce the South to return to its allegiance; but, when the rebels recovered so soon from the crushing defeat of Donelson to make the prodigious effort of Shiloh; when even the loss of Nashville, Bowling Green, and Columbus, and nearly all of Kentucky and Tennessee, appeared not to lessen their energy or overcome their determination, he became certain that the contest was to be prolonged and intense, beyond anything that had yet been seen. This belief developed his peculiar views of the manner in which the war should be carried on. He thought then and remained firm in the conviction ever afterwards, that it was not extended territory, nor capital cities, nor fortified places, that should be the prime object of any commander's strategy; for it had been proven that all these could be dispensed with by heroic and determined foes; but that armies and men must become the points of attack; and that these should be pursued wherever they moved, regardless, comparatively, of positions and forts; that the armies must not only be defeated but destroyed; therefore, the policy of merely outwitting or outmanœuvering the enemy, or forcing the evacuation of strongholds and the abandonment of territory, and allowing him thus to concentrate his real force, was unwise; that every effort should be made to find and fight the rebel armies again and again, and that only when those armies were either subdued or annihilated, would the rebellion end. Upon this idea he thereafter acted, so far as he had control. He did not underrate the value of places, but he was always willing to sacrifice them for armies. He did not depreciate the value of life, but he thought that even life should be freely spent, if so the great object of the war could be attained. He believed, indeed, that life rapidly expended in a vigorous campaign would prove an economy of life in the end.

From this time, therefore, Grant gave up the idea of saving the resources and sparing the property of the South; the South had made the war avowedly one of the people, and the people being a party must suffer, until the people as well as the soldiers, were conquered. Henceforth he gave his subordinates orders to live upon the resources of the country without stint, whenever their necessities compelled, and he abandoned all desire to protect the institution of slavery, although he himself had been a slaveholder, and had no sympathy with the merely political ideas of abolition. Whatever opposed the effort to maintain the unity of the country, must be destroyed.

THE ALLEGED SURPRISE AT SHILOH.

It has been repeatedly asserted that Grant was surprised at Shiloh, but the evidence to the contrary is incontrovertible. The preliminary fighting of the 3d and 5th of April necessarily put division and army commanders on the alert. The movements reported by Lewis Wallace, on the 4th, had a similar effect. Sherman had been skirmishing for several days; Prentiss had doubled his pickets the day before, and had a reconnoisance of a regiment out at three o'clock on the morning of the 6th; he received the earnest assault outside of his camps. W. H. L. Wallace also breakfasted early and had his horses saddled, "to be ready in case of an attack." These are not the indications of a camp that is surprised. Yet Prentiss, who fought till four o'clock in the afternoon, is said to have been captured at daylight and in his bed. Grant's dispatches of March 28th, 30th, and 31st, as well of those of the 4th and 5th of April, all furnish proof that he was intently watching the enemy. The fall that lamed him on the 4th was got in returning from the front, whither he had gone to investigate the rumor of an attack after Sherman's fight. On the 5th, he sent three dispatches to Halleck, reporting the skirmish of the day before, and with one of them enclosed the following note to himself from Sherman: "April 5th. I have no doubt that nothing will occur to-day more than picket firing. The enemy is saucy, but got the worst of it yesterday, and will not press our pickets far. I will not be drawn out far unless with certainty of advantage, and I do not apprehend anything like an attack upon our position." Grant remarked to Halleck on the same date: "Our outposts have been attacked by the enemy, apparently in considerable force. I immediately went up, but found all quiet. * * * I have scarcely the faintest idea of an attack (general one) being made upon us, *but will be prepared should such a thing take place.*"

Private soldiers and inferior officers, very probably, could not read the signs that told so plainly to their commanders the necessity of readiness; such may, very likely, have been surprised at what occurred; but Grant and his Division Generals, although of course they could not know at what hour or place the rebels might choose to assault at all, although they did not really expect an attack, yet knew the propinquity of a great army, and so far as could be, were prepared to receive it—*except in the matter of defensive intrenchments.* Up to this time the Western troops had not availed themselves of spade in war; but after Shiloh, both Generals and men, severely taught, resorted to the old Roman tactics, and never failed to intrench themselves after every day's march. Some, indeed, already over-cautious, were schooled into absolute timidity; and, in their anxiety to become secure against the enemy, forgot that the first object in war is not safety to one's self, but destruction to the foe. Those who wish to be entirely safe should stay at home.

In connection with this question of surprise, it is curious to note that Beauregard not only does not claim to have surprised Grant, but says in his official report: "At five A. M., on the 6th inst., *a reconnoitering party of the enemy having become engaged with the advanced pickets,* the commander of the forces," (A. S. Johnston) "gave orders to begin the movement." Bragg, also, thought the rebels were attacked on Sunday, for, speaking of the first day's fight, he says: "The enemy did not give us time to discuss the question of attack, *for soon after dawn he commenced* a rapid musket fire on our pickets."

Again: "The enemy was encountered IN FORCE *at the encampment of our advanced positions.*" And still again: "In about one mile, we encountered him in full force along almost the entire line. His batteries were posted on eminences, with strong infantry supports." Now, Bragg was in front of Sherman and McClernand, and it is Sherman who is said to have been surprised.

HALLECK AT CORINTH.

We have room for only one more extract, and we select a few pages from General Badeau's narrative of Halleck's strategy at Corinth, the latter having assumed command in the field and having disgraced Grant in the eyes of the army, by communicating his orders directly to the corps commanders without allowing the nominal commander of the Army of the Tennessee to become acquainted with their purport—page 101:

The national army moved slowly up towards Corinth from the battle field of Shiloh, after Halleck arrived, making no advance except when protected by intrenchments. This was greatly to the dissatisfaction of both officers and men, to whom such operations were new, and seemed to savor of timidity. But Halleck had derived a lesson from the assaults of Shiloh, and the outcry in consequence; he was determined not to be attacked unawares, and collected his forces from every quarter of his immense department, concentrating a hundred and twenty thousand bayonets; yet it took him six weeks to advance fifteen miles, the enemy in all that while making no offensive movement; on the contrary the rebels constructed defenses still more elaborate than those behind which Halleck advanced. Beauregard's strength was estimated at 70,000; he himself reported it at 47,000, and the officers and men of the National army were anxious to avail themselves of their vast superiority in numbers. They believed, correctly, as was afterwards proved, that Beauregard was moving his troops from Corinth with a view to divide, and not to concentrate them. Grant shared this belief, and expressed it. Late in May, he was at Halleck's headquarters, when the probability of an evacuation of Corinth was discussed, and then made the only suggestion he ventured to offer during the siege. He recommended that an attack should be made on the extreme right of the National line, west of W.T. Sherman's division. The enemy's defenses in front of this point, he deemed defective, and urged an assault with a view of turning the rebel line, and then moving to the left and sweeping the entire field. But Halleck scouted the idea, intimating that Grant's opinions need not be expressed until they were called for. In accordance with this intimation, Grant did not again obtrude them.

On the 30th of May, Halleck announced to his command: "There is every indication that the enemy will attack our left this morning," and the largest army ever assembled west of the Alleghenies, was accordingly drawn out in line of battle, awaiting an assault. But the rebels had already slipped out of Corinth, on the southern road, leaving wooden guns and barren defenses to impose as long as possible on their enemy. Early in the day, however, the nakedness of the works and the silence of the batteries were discovered, and the national forces marched unmolested into the town. Beauregard's movements had begun several days before; his orders for the evacuation were dated the 20th of May, and his plans for the retreat, picked up among the wrecks of his camps, disclosed the fact that he had been striving to elude Halleck since the 9th of the same month. Soon after entering the works, Grant rode to the rebel left, and satisfied himself beyond all doubt that had an assault on Sherman's front been ordered, a good General could have demolished the rebel army. This was by far the weakest point in Beauregard's line, and in such a position to be susceptible to such an attack as Grant had recommended, in vain.

The enemy had surrounded his point of defense with an immense show of intrenchments and fortifications, and vaunted his readiness to receive combat at any moment; when, in fact, his parade of batteries, artillery and magazines was little more than counterfeit, and his immense lines of earthwork remained as a mockery to his ability and his industry, unless the alternative is accepted that he never intended to defend them; for the moment he discovered Halleck ready to strike, he resumed his retreat, more demoralized than when he commenced it. The plan of his withdrawal seemed expressly calculated to facilitate the National forces in a successful pursuit; the roads were in admirable condition, and the country abounded in water; the troops were as anxious now to follow as they had been to fight during the siege. But the demoralized condition of the rebels, and the separation of their retreating forces, seemed not to be comprehended. The reports of deserters and prisoners, daily coming inside the National lines, were apparently set at naught; nothing but a vast offensive power seemed to loom before the magnified vision of the commander of this grand army; and an attack from the rebels was apparently the one thing apprehended by Halleck, from the time he set out from Pittsburgh up to the final point of the pursuit.

To cap the climax, Pope and Buell were successively sent out after the enemy. Buell was the ranking officer, and evantually took command. He formed a solid defensive line of battle, seventy thousand strong, reaching across the country from the vicinity of Boonville to Blackland, at a moment when it was obvious to his entire command that the bulk of the enemy's force had passed on, leaving a river behind, protected by an insignificant rear-guard. The seventy thousand remained two days, awaiting an assault from the retreating twenty thousand, and then, as it was discovered that the enemy had again escaped, the command was ordered back to Corinth, having marched out about twenty miles. During all these operations, Grant had been left in camp.

GEN. GRANT SUSPENDED A THIRD TIME.

In July, Pope was ordered to Virginia, and on the 17th of that month Halleck was assigned to the command of all the armies, superseding McClellan. He repaired at once to Washington and Grant was directed to establish his headquarters at Corinth. Grant's jurisdiction was not, however, enlarged by the promotion of Halleck; on the contrary, the new General-in-Chief first offered the command of the Army of the Tennessee to Colonel Robert Allen, a Quartermaster, who declined it, whereupon it was allowed to remain under Grant. A letter from General Allen, dated July 9, 1866, says: "I had joined Gen. Halleck a short time subsequent to the fall of Corinth, and was attached to his command, when he received his appointment of General-in-Chief, with orders to repair at once to Washington. Shortly after he came to my tent. * * * After a somewhat protracted conversation he turned to me and said: 'Now what can I do for *you?*' I replied that I did not know that he could do anything. 'Yes,' he rejoined, 'I can give you the command of this army.' I replied, 'I have not rank.' 'That,' said he, 'can be easily obtained.' I do not remember exactly what my reply was to this, but it was to the effect that I doubted the expediency of such a measure, identified as I was with the enormous business and expenditures of the Quartermaster's Department, from which it was almost impracticable to relieve me at that time. Other reasons were mentioned, and he did not press the subject. It is true that I was congratulated on the prospect of succeeding to the command, before I had mentioned the subject of this interview."

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[*] Military History of Ulysses S. Grant, from April, 1861, to April, 1865, by A. Badeau, Vol. 1. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Pittsburgh, Davis & Clark.

[†] "It was well known the enemy were approaching our lines, and there had been more or less skirmishing for three days preceding the battle. The consequence was our breakfasts were ordered at an early hour, and our horses saddled to be ready in case of an attack."—*Report of Major General McPherson, dated Lake Providence, La., March 26, 1863.* McPherson at this time was on Grant's staff; he was at W. H. L. Wallace's headquarters on the night of the 5th, and on the morning of the 6th.

ANOTHER BORGIA.

An Old Woman Suspected of Poisoning Her Family.

Cleveland will yet bear off the palm for crime from Chicago. The *Herald* of Saturday says: Close upon the heels of the terrible Parquet poisoning case in this city, in which a Coroner's jury has just found that a brother came to his death by poison at the hands of his sister, comes a new horror from Summit county, not less shocking in its details, if suspicion be well founded, than the case here. The facts are briefly these: On a little farm in what is known as Johnny-Cake Lock, in Boston township, Summit county, on the canal, lived an old farmer and his wife, both of them sixty years of age—perhaps more. The old couple have not lived happily for years, and the woman seems to have been suspected of having a passion for poison. At all events, a daughter has on two occasions, fearful of the result of some of her mother's frequent fits of passion, hidden away poison that the old lady had in the house. In the latter part of August last, the old man for some reason proposed to sell his farm and other property at public sale, and appointed the time, September 10, on a Tuesday. He wanted an assistant in the sale and sent for a young man named James Powles to act in that capacity. The young man arrived at the farm on Sunday afternoon previous to the Tuesday appointed for the sale. The old farmer was not feeling well, and was found lying out of doors on the grass vomiting. He had not been well for some days. A week or so before, he and a young man living with him ate breakfast as usual one morning, the old lady not having much appetite, and declining to join them in the meal. Immediately after breakfast the old man and the young one were taken with vomiting. The old man was consequently not well for some days, and sent for a boy to help him do his chores. The first time the boy ate breakfast there he was also attacked with vomiting, and the old man was also visited by a return of his former trouble. On the Sunday of the arrival of young Powles, the old lady had to get up a dinner of chicken; the old man, however, was too ill to eat, and Powles sat down to dinner, eating heartily of the chicken and of the bread on the table. He was also attacked with vomiting and violent pains and next day he died, and was buried. Dr. Pixley, one of the best physicians in this part of the State, knew of the circumstances, but his suspicions were not especially aroused. Finally the old man, being puzzled to account for this strange sickness in his house, attacking every one except his wife, communicated the facts to some neighbor, and was advised to throw away all the flour, milk, and other eatables in his house, and begin with a new supply. He threw a quantity of bread, among other things, into his hog pen, and next morning was astonished to find that his hog was dead, and also half a dozen hens that had been eating the bread thrown away. The body of young Powles has been exhumed, and the stomach taken out for chemical analysis.

Character of General Grant.

Grant's extreme simplicity of behavior and directness of expression imposed on various officers, both above and below him. They thought him a good, plain man, who had blundered into one or two successes, and who, therefore, could not be immediately removed; but they deemed it unnecessary to regard his judgment, or to count upon his ability. His superiors made their plans without consulting him, and his subordinates sometimes sought to carry out their own campaigns, in opposition or indifference to his orders, not doubting that, with their superior intelligence, they could conceive and execute triumphs which would excuse or even vindicate their course. It is impossible to understand the early history of the war, without taking into account that neither the Government nor its important commanders gave Grant credit for intellectual ability or military genius. His other qualities were rated low. Because he was patient some thought it impossible to provoke him; and because of his calmness it was supposed that he was stolid.

In battle or in campaigning he did not seem to care or consider so much what the enemy was doing as what he himself meant to do; and this trait, to enthusiastic or even brilliant soldiers, appeared inexplicable. A great commander, it was imagined, should be nervous, excitable, inspiring his men and captivating his officers, calling private soldiers by their names, making eloquent addresses in the field, and waving his drawn sword in battle. Great commanders had done all these things, and won; and many men, who could do all these things, fancied themselves, therefore, great commanders; others imagined wisdom to consist in science alone; they sought success in learned and elaborate plans, requiring months to develop, when the enemy was immediately before them; they manœuvred when it was time to fight; they entrenched when they should have attacked, and studied their books when the field should have been their only problem.

Grant was like none of these. If he possessed acquirements he appeared unconscious of them; he made no allusions to the schools, and never hesitated to transgress their rules when the occasion seemed to him to demand it. So he neither won men's hearts by blandishments, nor affected their imaginations by brilliancy of behavior; nor did he seem profound to those who are impressed only by a display of learning. All these things should be appreciated by those who seek to understand his character or career.—*Badeau's Military History.*

An Atrocious Letter.—We do not believe a more atrocious epistle than the following ever defiled paper. It is from the electoral Prince of Hesse Cassell, and refers to the Hessians in the British army killed at the battle of Trenton, December 26, 1776. It is given for the first time in this country in Lossing's Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution, and the writer was the grandfather of the present Prince of Hesse Cassell, one of the thirty-nine petty tyrants who rule Germany.

"You cannot think how much pleased I was to hear that, out of the nineteen hundred and fifty-five Hessians who took part in the battle, no more than three hundred and forty-five remain. There are, accordingly, sixteen hundred and ten dead—no more and no less—so the treasury owes me, according to our contract, 634,000 florins. The Court of London says, it is true, that some hundred of them are only wounded, who cannot be paid for like the dead; but I hope that reminful of my instructions given to you at Cassell, you have not tried to save, with inhuman help, those poor fellows who could have bought life only at the sacrifice of a leg or an arm. That would be a sad present to them; and I am sure they prefer to die gloriously rather than live lamed and unfit for my service. Remember that out of the three hundred Spartans but one remained in life. Oh! how happy would I be if I could say the same of my brave Hessians."

ARMY OF CUMBERLAND.

THE MEETING IN CINCINNATI.

Speeches of Gens. Sherman and Thomas.

The Banquet of the Society of the Army of the Cumberland, in Cincinnati, on Friday evening, was a very pleasant affair. Among the speeches—and there were several—were those of General Sherman and General Thomas.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S SPEECH.

General Sherman—"Mr. Chairman—Before commencing my five minutes, I want to define my position a little clearer. I do not conceive myself to be a guest here. I am a member of this army. [Great cheers.] If there is an older soldier of the Army of the Ohio or Cumberland here, I don't know it. [Laughter.] I know that General Johnson and General Wool, who sit on my right, were appointed to the army at my special request. Gen. Thomas I admit to be; but I claim to be of the Army of the Ohio, of the Army of the Cumberland, and of the Army of the Tennessee. I care not in which you throw me, my title there is heritage enough for me, but bound together all in one, the grand army of the West, it is a title of which I am proud indeed! But were I to do full justice, this grand army of the West, this combined army which filled so large a share in the after part of the war, I would probably go a little beyond the five minutes, to which I will restrict myself. [Cries of, 'Go on.'] But I assure you, gentlemen, that I have been more favored by kind Providence, and by you, yourselves, than the world at large knows: for a great deal of work was done before I was called upon to command you in chief. The first three years of the war I now regard, and every old officer will bear me out in this, that the first three years of the war were years of schooling. You were all as brave as you are now; you knew probably as much of the affairs of the world as you do now, but you had not in habit, in form, fashioned yourselves into that school which we term the soldier, where you act from habit, from impulse, from association, rather than from thought. Therefore the first three years of the war were years of schooling; and every writer of military affairs tells you that, in France, in Prussia, and wherever you go, three years of strong, patient labor and schooling are necessary to make a soldier. All this you had when I succeeded to this great command. And how dutiful you all were; how patient at the task! I had Thomas as a center. [Wild applause.] And he had to back him fifty thousand clever men. [Laughter.] On his right was McPherson. [Cheers.] I knew him, probably, better than most who are here. I had known him ten years, socially and as an officer; and a braver, bolder and gentler man never served any land. [Applause.] He is not here, but he looks down upon us now, and I know he is pleased to see you here together in social concourse, and I know when you speak his name in kindness and praise, it will reach him where he now is. [Sensation and applause.] And I tell you when I had McPherson on my right I knew all was right there, too. [Cheers.] I looked to the other end and there was Schofield, with a large brain and a firm standing up on his feet that nothing can move but the stroke of death. Where he was was security. Then, with three such armies in one—the great trinity of war—how could I fail? No danger, no amount of distance, no amount of obstruction, weighed a feather in my mind, for I knew they could all be overcome.

"Therefore, my friends, we all went in from the head to the foot, with a consciousness that victory was bound to be ours. [Cheers.] And that resolution gained victory. [Cheers.] That resolution carried us wherever we turned our columns; whether over the mountains about Chattanooga; whether over the vast region of pine which lay between us and the sea; whether to the north or the south;—for every soldier of you thought you were going to Richmond, and you were right. Every movement we made from the day we left Chattanooga was an attack upon Richmond. [Cheers and laughter.] And now, my friends, to dwell upon things of this kind, so familiar to you all, would simply be consuming time and tiring you. [Cries of 'no, no,' 'go on,' 'we've got past the sea, now,' laughter and cheers.] But I assure you, gentlemen, when you couple all these events together, and spread them before the great outside world, our own people and the French, the German and the English, you will be amazed at the minuteness of their knowledge. They have studied every march, and every movement of the right or left, and I have seen this summer and last men of the highest intelligence abroad who studied our movements, and can tell you to-day more than we ourselves know of their bearing upon the history of the world. And I do believe that the movements of the great Army of the West, after it came together as a whole, after it operated as one body of men in perfect harmony in all parts, inspired with a single purpose, that every movement was not only skillfully conceived, but skillfully executed; and I have often, in my conversation with foreign officers, explained the movement by which we withdrew our beleaguering army at Atlanta, and I believe that it was as well executed as the march upon Sadowa this summer. We withdrew an army of one hundred thousand from a line of investment of fifteen miles in length, and resumed a position in three columns without the loss of one man, and that in the presence of fifty thousand enemies. We then marched a thousand miles through the enemy's country and never even had a man tried or executed by a court-martial during that time. There never was a council-of-war held. So that, gentlemen, on the whole, I for my part am perfectly satisfied with the career of the armies of the Great West, or the great army of the West, whichever you please to call it, and if you are equally satisfied we certainly are in perfect harmony."

[The great General resumed his seat amid vociferous cheering.]

FORMER COMMANDERS.

Gen. Thruston responded to the toast to the former commanders of the Army of the Cumberland. He said: "There was a time when I was proud to follow in the wake of General Sherman, the great soldier who has preceded me; but I must confess I am at a loss when called upon to follow him to-night. However, experience has taught us that General Sherman is a pretty safe man to follow, and I believe I will try it."

General Thruston then proceeded to speak of Generals Buell and Rosecrans in high terms, and his words were all well received. General Robert Anderson also received his attention and the applause of the listeners.

GENERAL GEORGE H. THOMAS.

General Cox here arose and said: "We now propose the health of the President of our Society, General Thomas."

Loud calls were made for the General, the audience rising to their feet and drinking his health with the wildest excitement.

General Thomas said:

"MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN—I thank you for the toast. At the same time it is most too personal for me to attempt to reply to. [Applause.] Again, my predecessors have occupied nearly the whole field of expression to-night, and I am in a pretty bad scrape. [Cheers.] I don't know how I shall draw out. Nevertheless, I will try do so; I will make the attempt. [Applause.] I did intend to relate our withdrawal from the front of Atlanta to take up those three lines of march which our illustrious commander has described. He has taken that away from me. [Cheers.] As the President of this Association, I desired, also, to allude briefly to the services and merits of my predecessors. My immediate successor has talked all that. [Cheers.] Now you see how desperate the condition is. [Applause.] You all know that I am a modest man [cheers] and never speak unless I am forced to speak. I was once offered the command of the Army of the Cumberland when I thought it should not be taken. [Voices—'That's true.'] I would not permit myself to be made use of to do him an injury. At a later day, without any thought of such a position being thrust upon me, the command of the Army of the Cumberland was given to me. You know very well the occasion. It was when we were tied up, in a measure, at Chattanooga. [Cheers.] We did not have a great deal to eat then, you know [cheers], and we economized our rations, and we proposed to starve before we gave up that place. [Applause and considerable confusion.]

"Gentlemen, you confuse me now. [Cheers.] You know the Army of the Cumberland expressed that sentiment to the country that we would starve before we gave up Chattanooga. The whole country had confidence in that declaration. Reinforcements came as soon as they could be got there. We waited patiently; diminished our rations from day to day until they became almost a myth, but the day did come when the Army of the Tennessee, on our left, opened the way, by crossing the Tennessee river, and taking a strong position on Mission Ridge. [Applause.] The next day the reinforcements from the Army of the Potomac, which were not then incorporated with the Army of the Cumberland, carried that point on our right. That gave us great encouragement. [Applause.] We felt that we could get something to eat before long. The next day was the grand *finale.* The enemy, thinking he had us entirely in his power, forgot himself and lost Lookout Mountain. To retrieve his disaster he concentrated upon our illustrious friend upon my right (General Sherman,) the leader of the combined armies afterward. That concentration gave the corps under my immediate command an opportunity to make a straight line for the top of Mission Ridge. [Applause.] It carried it; it held it, [applause] and it hurled the broken enemy across Chickamauga Creek: [voices, 'good,'] and well do I remember when, after the battle was over, right on the top of the hill, I fell among some of my old soldiers, who always took liberties with me [applause;] who commenced talking and giving their views of the victory. When I attempted to compliment them for the gallant manner in which they had made the assault, one man very coolly said, 'Why, General, we knew that you have been training us for this race for the last three weeks.' [Applause.] Just at that moment, not knowing exactly what to say to him, I looked over my shoulder and saw a steamboat coming into Chattanooga. Said I, we have trained you as long as we want to; there comes the rations. [Applause.] Now, gentlemen, my time is very near up. [Many voices, 'Go on, go on.'] I will now close by touching upon one subject which no gentleman has touched upon to-night. It is this, the civilizing influences of discipline, both in the army and the navy. We have not only broken down one of the most formidable rebellions that ever threatened the existence of any country, but we have civilized two hundred thousand valuable patriots and citizens. [Applause.] I have traveled a little since the war was over. Wherever I have been, whether on a steamboat or by rail, I have either seen on the steamboat, engaged in peaceful occupations, or I have seen in the fields along the railroad, engaged in peacefully following the plow and setting an example of industry worthy to be followed by all the country, men innumerable dressed in blue. [Cheers.] They did not disdain to wear the uniform. They gloried in it, and I hope that such sentiments and such civilizing influences as have been produced by the war will serve for all time to inspire this nation with such a feeling of patriotism that no enemy can ever do us the least harm." [Loud applause.]

STARVATION IN EUROPE.

Terrible Scenes Among the Poor.

The foreign papers are filled with accounts of the dreadful sufferings of the poor in England, France and Germany. The depression of trade, the suspension of manufactures and the unusual severity of the season combine to produce a state of affairs which is simply horrible. We have already given some particulars of the sufferings of the unemployed classes in England and France, but the following incidents are told in the papers received by the latest arrivals:

SCENES IN SOUTH LONDON.

The London *Herald* describes some scenes witnessed in the tenement houses of South London:

"We entered many houses, and distress more or less prevailed in all. We were told that we might inquire into hundreds of cases with the same result. At midday, and later, we found families who had eaten their last crust for breakfast, and had no means of obtaining more, unless by pawning some of the scanty remnants of furniture of clothing yet remaining. In one house the breakfast for a large family had been obtained by pawning a sheet. In another case a little boy out of a family of four was crying for his dinner, having eaten nothing since the morning, and very little the day before.

"'Behind with the rent,' seemed to be the general confession. As for the rates, people spoke of these obligations as if they were utterly out of the question. In one instance we found a claim of 14s. 10½d., made upon a laboring man having a wife and six children. His rent was 4s. a week, and he was in arrears to the extent of £2 6s. He had applied to the parish for relief, and had obtained 2s. 6d. and three loaves a week for two weeks. The house consisted of four rooms, two of which were formerly let, but the man and four of his children had been attacked with small-pox, and since then it was not possible to let the rooms. The man was still suffering from the effects of this illness, and, in fact was not fit for out-door work.

"Another phase of the Poor Law was presented to us as we visited a wretched blind alley, dignified as 'Little Marlborough street.' Here, among fifteen houses, were seven deaths during the cholera visitation in the summer of 1866. The drainage had been improved since that time, but it was a dismal, ill-ventilated place still. The houses had each simply two rooms, one up and one down, with no back yard. The rent was 2s 3d a week, and the quarter's rates exceeded 5s. In one house was a poor heart-broken laboring man, with a wife and four children. Work had been very bad since last September. Application had recently been made to the parish, resulting in 2s a week and two loaves. In addition, the man went to work in the stone yard, where he was allowed to work as many days in the week as he liked, providing his hebdominal earnings did not exceed 4s 6d, the rate of pay being 3d a bushel. Deducting the rent, and supposing 4s 6d, to be earned at the stone yard, the family of half a dozen were left to subsist on 4s a week and two loaves of bread. In regard to the stone yard, complaints were made by this man and others as to the dangerous character of the work, the splinters of granite flying about, and sometimes causing painful, if not dangerous wounds. A man named King was stated to have had his eyes so injured in this way that he has been obliged to become an out patient of Guy's Hospital.

"It was sad, indeed, to go from house to house and find such bitter want prevailing. It was Saturday, and in many cases there was but half a loaf to face the remainder of the day and the coming Sunday. In one house there was only a little rice in a saucepan. Some of the houses, we may say, are utterly unworthy of the name. Irish cabins would contrast favorably with certain of them. They were a disgrace to civilization. Of 'Hampshire' cottages we can only say that we were in difficulty whether to make a note of them as pigsties or cowsheds. That they could be human habitations seemed incredible, until we entered them and verified the fact."

STARVING PERSONS PUNISHED FOR BEGGING.

The London *News* of January 22d tells this story:

"Fifty-one persons, men, women and children, were committed to the city prison at Holloway in three days, by one alderman, last week. They had been found destitute in the streets of the city by the police, and they had been taken into custody on the charge of begging. For this offense the delinquents were sentenced to an average imprisonment of from fourteen to twenty-one days' punishment, with hard labor, on a diet of dry bread and gruel. They were by no means of the class known popularly as jolly beggars. Among the whole fifty-one the amount of money found in their pockets amounted, it is said, upon authority which there seems no reason to doubt, to the sum of one penny. The coin was found upon the person of a blind man.

"They contained amongst their number representatives not only of every form of misery, but almost of every class except the criminal. One was, it is said, a stock broker, who at one time had been possessed of more than £500,000. He came to grief through having invested too confidently in Spanish bonds. Some were young women who had come up from remote villages to get situations as domestic servants in London, but being disappointed in their expectations, had come to sleep in casual wards, to beg and to be sent to prison. A young Scotchman who had come up to make his fortune in the metropolis went into the streets to beg sooner than starve. Two young men from Yorkshire were in the same case. Others had taken to the streets after being refused relief at the workhouse gates. Married women, with infants in their arms, whose husbands were unable to obtain work, formed a considerable percentage of the destitute. One little child of two years of age was locked up with its mother.

"The whole fifty-one were more or less suffering from starvation. Thirty-four of them were in a state of physical exhaustion from want of food. Young women were seen to stagger from weakness when entering the prison. Nine of the poor wretches had legs so sore from excessive walking, from exposure to the inclemency of the weather, and from vermin eating into the neglected ulcers, that they had to be placed in bed in the jail, and there they still remain. Another, less fortunate than these, had no legs at all. Most of the culprits were in rags; those who were exceptions in this respect were clothed, or rather covered by canvas sacks, the gifts of workhouse authorities."

Another case is reported by the London *Star*:

"We most earnestly call public attention to a report in our columns of an inquest held on the body of a poor man, who died in Holloway Prison on Sunday night. Found begging in the streets, he had been taken before a London Alderman and sentenced to twenty-two days' imprisonment with hard labor. When taken to prison he was in a state of utter exhaustion, both of mind and body, from want of food; he was so stupid, in fact, that hardly anything could be made out of his replies to the questions put to him by the Governor. An hour after his admission on Saturday afternoon he had a meal of gruel and dry bread, which he ravenously devoured. On Sunday morning he was seen by the doctor, and fed again on bread and gruel. On Sunday evening he had an attack of apoplexy, and was removed to the hospital ward, where for the first time he got the attention he had all along required. It came too late; and, in spite of blisters and beef tea, he died on Sunday night."

The *Star* adds: "The man was only one of fifty-one hapless wretches sent to Holloway Prison last week, thirty-four of whom, by the Governor's own admission, are in nearly the same state of exhaustion as the poor creature who has just died. The account of the state in which they enter the prison will hardly bear reading, yet we must dwell on it for a moment, for before the awful misery it pictures false delicacy would be merely a refinement of cruelty. Some are in rags, some almost as naked as the beasts, or covered with hardly anything but the vermin that eat into their ulcerated wounds. All are literally starving, and for being like this, and asking for food, they are sent off for twenty-one days' hard labor and harder fare in a prison. The mind cannot grasp the real nature of such calamity, of such wickedness. *Who can say that the Government that suffers it is even tolerable?*"

STARVATION IN WALWORTH AND NEWINGTON.

Two clergymen write to the London *News* concerning the suffering in Walworth and Newington, England:

"During the last few months there has been an almost entire suspension of these employments, and consequently many thousands of these poor persons have been compelled, as their only means of living, to pawn their goods and furniture for rent and food. This miserable process has reached its limits. Great numbers have now nothing left to pawn, and are without food, and fire and clothing, and with only a heap of straw in their wretched rooms for a bed, while the workhouse is crowded to overflowing. To provide the means of 'tiding over' the extreme distress, and to avert in many cases impending starvation, a committee, consisting of the clergy, ministers and chief laymen of the parish, has been formed, and for several weeks have, from local subscriptions, supplied three times a week to these starving persons, irrespective of creed or sect, one thousand six hundred quarts of good soup, and four hundred loaves of bread. These local funds, however, are now quite exhausted, and a public appeal for 'immediate' help, to which the Lord Mayor has just sent £20, is now made in the hope that these soup kitchens may be kept open during the continuance of the prevailing destitution."

DREADFUL SUFFERINGS IN EASTERN PRUSSIA.

A letter from Dantzic says:

"The most horrible distress prevails in the towns and rural districts of this country, and if the State does not come to the aid of the population who are suffering from hunger the greatest calamities are to be feared. At Conita, Bucken and Bochun the want is also terrible. Several manufacturers have increased the wages of their workmen, and given employment to as many of the poor as they can occupy. But private charity is quite insufficient. Workshops are being opened everywhere for women and children, who are fed and sheltered gratis. Every possible means that can be suggested of relieving the distress are being adopted."

The Cologne *Gazette* says that the number of families in Eastern Prussia which require relief is three thousand five hundred, spread over thirty-five districts. Of this number of territorial divisions fifteen demand aid for six months and twenty for half that period. The Sanitary Commission of one of those communes has published a letter denying assertions made by the semi-official press to the effect that the distress was much exaggerated. "The misery," adds the letter, "is indescribable; men, women and children are huddled together completely destitute, in the forest, on litters of straw. Men are attacked with typhus fever, and the greater part are dying of hunger."

THE POLITICAL HORIZON IN EUROPE.

War or Peace?---Vast Military Preparations.

The London *Daily News* in an editorial note says: "It is a curious phenomenon, if it is not a strange contradiction, that while the government, of Europe are proclaiming their desire for the continuance of peace, the preparation of arms and armed men was never so active as it is at present on almost every side. The Berlin *Gazette* asserts with satisfaction that France, England, Austria and Prussia are agreed in the policy 'of preventing a conflagration from bursting forth in the south of Europe,' and insists on the fact that 'friendly relations between Austria and Prussia alone would modify more than one design and one hope.' The North German *Gazette* also considers that the chances of peace have become greater, and looks forward to the time when the States of Europe will direct their attention, not to the formation of immense armies, but to internal administrative and economical reforms. In France, Italy and Russia pacific declarations are also heard. But unfortunately the acts of the Governments do not harmonize with the official and semi-official announcements in favor of peace. In Italy the Minister of Marine has asked the Chamber of Deputies for a supplementary credit to meet the cost of armament of nine iron-plated vessels and the alteration of the carbines of the Royal Marines. The Spanish Chambers have unanimously passed an armament bill, and the Government, it is said, have applied to the United States for the purchase of 50,000 needle guns. A telegraphic dispatch from Vienna mentions that the Servian Government have made a similar application at Vienna for the purchase of 20,000 guns, and that it was refused. The Chambers of Stuttgard, of Munich, and of Brussels are discussing army bills. Notwithstanding the pacific declarations of the Berlin journals, if the Turin *Gazette* is correctly informed, Prussia is making immense war preparations; her troops are already concentrating on the Silesian and Saxon frontiers, and with such a formidable accumulation of military material that one would imagine we were on the eve of a second Sadowa campaign. The *Nord*, which speaks for the pacific policy of Russia, and maintains that to that policy it is owing that the peace of Europe has not been broken before this time, copies an article from the *Invalide Russe*, by which we find that Russia has diminished her active army to 700,000, but that she has an immense reserve, from which the army could at once be increased by 64 per cent. It is further stated that the army being no longer composed of serfs, the men are animated by the highest spirit. The State and private factories are busily employed in the manufacture of needle-guns of which the *Invalide* calculates that 800,000 will be ready in the course of the present year. The Carl rifle is the one adopted by the Government, and the Russian organ evidently expects it will 'do wonders.' Rifled cannon and the preparation of the fortresses are not omitted from the preoccupations of Russia. Even the Sovereign Pontiff of Rome is studying the art of maintaining peace by increasing his army to 25,000 men. Such is the condition of Continental Europe as presented by its press in the first month of 1863."

Concerning the policy of France, the *Memorial Diplomatique* has the following: "Dispatches received at Paris yesterday morning make known that, during the last few days, a very marked change has taken place in the language of the Russian Government with respect to foreign Powers, and in consequence in the articles of the journals of St. Petersburg the Vice-Chancellor, in particular, is said to have declared that the policy of Russia will not deviate from its pacific character, and that it will do nothing to disturb peace in the East. The same dispatches add that the retention of Prince Gortschakoff appears to be definitely consolidated, and that there is no question of his being replaced. You will observe that this confirms substantially what I wrote to you on Tuesday. But the public, and even political circles, receive with great distrust the sudden change in favor of peace of Russia, and also of Prussia and France. It seems to them not to be in accord with the political situation; it seems to them, too, that if it were likely to be lasting there would be no need of continuing military preparations, and yet no Government has countermanded those it has undertaken."

Speculating on the question of peace or war in Europe, the *Independance* says: "The pacific keynote is sounded with emphasis in the official regions of France, but not too highly for the object which is to insure the success of the 400,000,000 loan. According to the most accredited reports in Paris, the advocates of this loan have carried their point against the distinguished supporters of its postponement. M. Magne has demonstrated the necessity of immediate resources, and now that all opposition is abandoned the chief concern of the government is to obviate the alarm which may be created by a loan following in such close succession the law on military organization. It is much to be feared that the efforts made to revive a feeling of tranquility will prove abortive as long as public opinion is kept distracted by the divisions which exist among the Governments of Continental Europe, between these Governments and the people, and the continual military preparations which coincide with this deplorable state of things. The old adage, *si vis pacem para bellum*, is used up; it is base coin, which no longer circulates. That pacific assurances should have any value at present, they must be accompanied with at least partial disarmament. Even the undoubted improvement in the relations of France and Prussia has not had the effect of restoring security in the existing state of things, and it is interpreted as a danger to the liberty and destiny of Italy. This is no doubt an exaggerated view, but it has a basis of truth, and the intrigues which it supposes indicates the perils to which the peace of Europe and the development of its liberty are exposed."

Slaughter of the Innocents.

The authorities in New York have just been investigating the conduct of an establishment kept by a Mrs. Putnam, alias Madam Parselle. It has been her practice to advertise for children to be adopted out, which children she undertook to "do for" at the rate of $30 a head. For five years past she has been getting these little innocents at the rate of between seven and nine a month. Four children have died in her house within three weeks. They were packed in bundles or paste board boxes, to be buried by the Commissioners of Charity in potter's field. In no instance did the certificate of the cause of death truthfully name the place where the death occurred, notwithstanding the fact that the physicians were regular medical attendants upon the sick at that establishment. The cause of death assigned was "convulsions," or, as the coroner's jury expressed it, "gastric irritation following aptha;" but in reality they were systematically starved to death. It was said that the nurse who received one of them agreed, for a consideration of thirty dollars and its clothes, to keep it until it should be "adopted out, or die." Dr. Harris, who examined the tissues of the body and all the viscera, says that in his judgment, so far as could be detected by the naked eye, there was no cause of death save starvation. Dr. Wooster Beach, after an interview with the keeper of the house, invented the euphemism of "gastric irritation following aphths," and the coroner and his jury, evidently puzzled over these learned words, wrote them into their verdict. No measures have been taken to punish the perpetrators of these fiendish and cowardly crimes; and it does not appear that anything is to prevent them from resuming business as before.

An Oil Reminiscence of 1864.

Dr. George Cochran has commenced a suit against H. B. Hubbard and others, in the Supreme Court at Brooklyn, New York, for the recovery of $40,000, which the plaintiff and others invested in oil speculations. While the oil excitement was raging, the defendant and a Mrs. Ingersoll represented to plaintiff that they had purchased 100 acres of oil land near Oil Creek, Pa.; that they had paid $1,000 to bind the bargain, saying the cost of the land was $50,000, and proposed to form a company to purchase it. On the strength of these representations, as claimed, plaintiff, and others, formed a company and raised $50,000, which was handed over to defendants to purchase the land. Stock to the amount of $300,000 was issued and divided among the members of the company. A few subscriptions had only been taken, however, when it was ascertained that, instead of having paid $50,000 for the land, the defendants had only invested $10,000, leaving $40,000 to be accounted for. The case is in progress.

THE SALES OF PIANOS by the celebrated firm of Steinway & Sons, have exceeded the sum of one million of dollars by more than one hundred thousand dollars.

THE BLIND PSALMIST.

He sang the airs of olden times
In soft, low tones to sacred rhymes,
Devotional, but quaint;
His fingers touched the viol's strings,
And at their gentle vibratings
The glory of an angel's wings
Hung o'er that aged saint!

His thin, white locks, like silver threads
On which the sun its radiance sheds,
Or like the moonlit snow,
Seemed with a lustre half divine,
Around his saintly brow to shine,
Till every scar, or time-worn line
Was gilded with its glow.

His sightless balls to heaven upraised,
As with the spirit's eyes he gazed
On things invisible—
Reflecting some celestial light—
Were like a tranquil lake at night,
On which two mirrored planets bright,
The concave's glory tell.

Thus, while the patriarchal saint
Devoutly sang to music quaint,
I saw old Homer rise
With buried centuries from the dead,
The laurel green upon his head,
As when the choirs of bards he led,
With rapt, but blinded eyes!

And Scio's isle again looked green,
As when the poet there was seen,
And Greece was in her prime;
While Poesy with epic fire
Did once again the Bard inspire,
As when he swept his mighty lyre,
To vibrate through all time.

The vision changed to Albion's shore;
I saw a sightless Bard once more
From dust of ages rise!
I heard the harp and deathless song
Of glorious Milton float along,
Like warblings from the birds that throng
His muse's Paradise!

And is it thus, when blindness brings
A vail before all outer things,
That visual spirits see
A world within, than this more bright,
Peopled with living forms of light,
And strewed with gems, as stars of night
Strew diamonds o'er the sea?

Then, reverend saint, though old and blind,
Thou with the quenchless orbs of mind
Canst natural sight o'erreach;
Upborne on Faith's triumphant wings,
Canst see unutterable things,
Which only through thy viol's strings,
And in thy songs find speech.

DISASTROUS FIRE.

One of the most destructive fires that has occurred in this city for months past, took place Sunday morning, involving the loss of the large and elegant building, Nos. 96 and 98 Fourth street, owned and occupied by Messrs. A. H. English & Co., as a publishing house, together with a large amount of other property. The

PARTICULARS OF THE CONFLAGRATION,

as far as could be ascertained, are as follows: Yesterday morning at ten minutes after one o'clock, as Mr. Seth Wilmot, Lieutenant of the night police, was passing along Fourth street, he discovered a fire in the basement of Messrs. English & Co.'s establishment. He immediately gave the alarm, and the firemen, upon their arrival, extinguished the flames without difficulty. An inspection of the premises showed that the fire was the work of an incendiary, a number of reams of printing paper having been piled in one corner of the building and fired by means of waste paper. The establishment was then closed by the police, and the firemen retired. At forty-five minutes after three o'clock, fire was observed issuing from the third story of the building, and in a few moments afterwards it was a sheet of flames. The firemen labored incessantly, but the fire spread with fearful rapidity to the row of three-story brick dwellings on the east side, destroying two of them and injuring the third. The first house in the row was occupied by Mr. John D. Bailey as a residence and office. Mr. Bailey's family escaped from the burning building with difficulty, and were unable to save their clothing or any portion of the furniture. The next house was occupied by Mrs. Thorn, who had leased a suite of rooms to Mr. C. Tetedoux, the first story front room being used as a law office by J. Harrison Sewell, Esq. This building, together with the principal portion of its contents, was destroyed. The adjoining house, owned and occupied by Mr. D. Brucklocher, next took fire, but the firemen succeeded in extinguishing the flames before the building had been entirely destroyed, thereby preserving the balance of the row. United States Assessor Weaver had his office in the first story, and fortunately all his books and papers were preserved.

The heat was so intense as to set fire to the roofs of the three-story brick buildings on the opposite side of the street, occupied by Dr. Jas. Orr, dentist, Gen. J. Bowman Sweitzer, C. D. Arnsthal and Mrs. Stevenson. The Duquesne Fire Company succeeded in getting a hose through Dr. Orr's house to the roof and extinguishing the flames. Dr. Orr estimates his damage by water at $500, while Gen. Sweitzer, Mr. Arnsthal and Mrs. Stevenson will each lose a similar amount. The buildings are owned by Mrs. Stevenson, and have all been badly damaged by water. The law office of R. C. G. Sproul, Esq., was also badly scorched and damaged by water.

THE LOSSES SUSTAINED.

The establishment of Messrs. English & Co., in which the fire originated, was erected in '66 and '67, at a cost of $45,000, and was an elegant structure. It was four stories high, fronting on Fourth street forty feet, and extending back eighty-five feet. The front was of iron, filled in with glass, the French plate in the lower stories being the largest in the city, and costing $1,250. The first floor was divided into two store rooms, one being used by the firm as a stationery store, while the other was occupied by Mr. George F. Knott as a wholesale shoe warehouse, a branch from a Philadelphia establishment. Mr. Knott had a small stock on hand, and estimates his loss at $5,000, which is fully covered by insurance. The balance of the building was occupied as a printing house, the firm being largely engaged in issuing Osgood's series of school books. The most approved machinery had recently been introduced, among which were three Adams presses of the largest size, folding, cutting and ruling machines, etc., the whole being valued at $70,000. The stock of material on hand was very large. In the stationery store there were 25,000 or 30,000 volumes of Osgood's school books, and a similar number of works by other authors. The loss of stock and material will amount to $30,000. The principal portion of stereotype plates had been deposited in a fire proof vault, in the basement. The plates for the spellers and the intermediate arithmetic were on the press, and it is supposed that they have been destroyed. Workmen will be engaged this morning in removing the debris from the vault, in order to secure the plates, as it is Mr. English's intention to proceed to Philadelphia and make arrangements with publishers in that city to supply his agents. The firm estimate their total loss at $145,000, but in case the stereotypes have escaped injury, the amount will be $20,000 less. The have an insurance of $44,500 in eastern companies, principally in the Etna, Girard and Continental. None of our city companies have risks on the building or stock.

Mr. Bailey lost his furniture, together with nearly all the clothing of his family. He computes his loss at $5,000 or $6,000, upon which there is an insurance of $2,000. The building was owned by Charles H. Paulson, Esq., and is supposed to have been insured.

Mrs. Thorn's furniture was also destroyed, as was that of Mr. Tetedoux. Their loss will amount to $3,000; no insurance. The building was also owned by Mr. Paulson.

Mr. Brucklocher's loss by water was very severe—his furniture and carpets being ruined. The roof was burned off the house, and otherwise damaged, but it can be repaired. He owned the building, and had an insurance of $2,500 in the Franklin Company—$2,000 on the house and $500 on the furniture.

The residences of Dr. Le Moyne and Mr. John Peak were slightly injured by water. Harry Shirls, Esq., of the St. Charles Hotel, had stored a large quantity of ice in a building in the rear of English & Co.'s establishment, and a portion of it was destroyed.

A Sensible Father.

There is living in this city a gentleman, the father of nine sons, all of whom are living—the oldest being over fifty and the youngest over twenty-five. The old gentleman is now over seventy and looks as though he might live a decade yet. His estimable partner died some three years ago, and was but a few years younger than himself. Although a tobacconist by trade, he never indulged in the weed in any form, and his nerves are as steady as though he were in the prime of life. He made it a point to give all his boys a trade and they are all doing well—each engaged in some useful and honorable calling, several in business on their own account. He has an old-fashioned notion that the best thing for a boy is a trade; because, having that, he need never suffer want so long as his health remains. He did not perceive, among his boys, material for the making of clerks, lawyers, doctors, ministers, artists, etc., as too many partial parents now-a-days discover in their sons, but took the sensible view that not one of them—even "the baby"—was too good to learn a trade. He acted upon the principle that if any of the boys was endowed with rare talents, peculiarly fitting him for some professional calling, his genius would be strengthened, rather than weakened, by the experiences of the workshop, and to whatever heighths he might afterwards aspire, or whatever reverses he might encounter, he would always have his trade to "fall back on." No doubt he might have "turned out" a lawyer, a doctor, and a preacher, from his family of nine, and had material left for a few clerks and salesmen, but did he not pursue a much wiser course? Is not his example worthy of imitation (we do not mean in regard to the number, but the management of his boys) by thousands of indulgent papas who consider their sons too good for the workshop, the mill, and the foundry?

THE Republican State Committee of West Virginia have notified the Republican voters of that State to elect delegates to a State Convention which will meet in Wheeling on the 23d of this month. The Convention is called to nominate ten delegates to the National Republican Convention at Chicago on the 20th of May next, and to transact such other business as may concern the interests of the Republican party throughout the State.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1868.

THE charter of the Gettysburg Lottery scheme which was granted by the Pennsylvania Legislature last winter, and under which the managers of the lottery have been for some time operating, has been taken away. Those who have been duped into taking chances in the scheme can count the cost at their leisure.

MR. JOHNSON has delivered his broadside,—in other words, has replied to GRANT. His letter and letters from Secretaries WELLES, MCCULLOCH, BROWNING, SEWARD and Postmaster General RANDALL, in a general way supporting the assertions of the President, were read in the House of Representatives yesterday. A rejoinder from GRANT is expected to-day.

THE Railroad Committee of the Senate have agreed upon certain amendments to the Free Railroad bill; and in that shape, we understand, the bill will be supported by the Free Railroad men in the Legislature. It requires four thousand dollars per mile to be subscribed, and authorizes the issue of bonds equal to the amount of the stock subscribed. If passed in this shape, the bill will be a fulfillment of the pledges made by the Republican party to the people.

THE Legislature is working bravely, and, as we believe, with an eye solely to the interests of the State. We hear nothing of "rings," of "pinchers" or "roosters," but devotion to duty only. We are encouraged to believe that the Free Railroad Bill in an acceptable form—substantially as reported by Mr. COLEMAN on behalf of the Railroad Committee—will become a law. Let the Republican members see to it that the credit for passing it go not to others. The people are not indifferent, but perhaps more intently than their representatives are aware, are watching the course of events in this respect at Harrisburg.

THE decision rendered by the United States Supreme Court Monday in certain cases relating incidentally to reconstruction, may probably be regarded as indicative of the temper of that tribunal on other cases, wherein the constitutionality of the reconstruction laws are supposed to be involved. The decision was that the question was purely political, and hence the Court cannot take cognizance of it. The decision was on an application from Georgia and Mississippi for an injunction to restrain the President, Secretary of War, General GRANT and others from executing the reconstruction laws.

WE could fill our entire paper with the remarks of the Republican press of the country, commending warmly and expressing the greatest satisfaction with the manner General GRANT bore himself in the correspondence with Mr. JOHNSON. The people are with him; for it is apparent to them that in civil affairs he brings to bear the same good sense, fidelity to principle and tenacity of purpose that he manifested at the head of our armies in the field. He does his own thinking, and recent experience has shown that he can express himself, too, and as few men can. The sentiment around which the correspondence revolves, and which General GRANT utters in words that ring like a bell—"*the law is binding, constitutional or not, until set aside by the proper tribunal*"—is the very essence of loyalty and correct principle. It will be cherished as a sentiment especially valuable in contrast with the revolutionary purposes of ANDREW JOHNSON, who in this controversy started out with the avowed purpose of deliberately setting aside and utterly disregarding a law of Congress—a thing which he has no more right to do than the humblest citizen. Mr. JOHNSON, it is said, feels called upon to reply to Gen. GRANT's last letter, and his reply, it is said, also, will be accompanied with letters, supporting him, from certain members of the Cabinet. We can tell better what the witnesses say after they have testified; but it will require more than the united testimony of all of the Cabinet to induce the American people to believe that as between ANDREW JOHNSON and Gen. GRANT the latter has lied.

THE ALABAMA ELECTION.

No doubt whatever exists about the reasons why the Alabama Constitution failed to be ratified. In the first place, it was provided in the law that unless a majority of the registered voters went for it, the constitution should fail. The "Conservatives," therefore, had a comparatively easy time of it. Their tactics were simple and effective, and they illustrate the folly of these provision of the reconstruction law. It did not take long for the "Conservatives" to perceive that the greater the number of voters registered, under any circumstances, the greater the number of affirmative votes that would be necessary to carry the constitution. Therefore they went to registering, and all sorts of frauds were perpetrated to swell the number. Thousands of so-called "Conservatives" were fraudulently registered: for every registered vote of this sort would offset a genuine vote for the Constitution. Having played this game, and swelled the registration as much as possible, the aforesaid Conservatives—who prate so loudly about the will of the people—resolved not to vote at all; it would be all the same whether they voted or not, for the law called for *a majority of all the votes registered*—not *cast*, mind you. They then went systematically to work to keep the colored voters away. They threatened them with dismissal from employment, and sometimes with violence, and in this way thousands of them were deterred from voting. Of course such a game, if only half played, would succeed; and it did succeed. The Constitution was defeated. The only wonder is, it received the assent of as many voters as it did. By far the larger share of them were the colored men, who went to the polls in the face of threats and every device to frustrate their purpose. It was but natural that some of them should yield to threats and other influences, and stay away; and the fact that the Conservative scheme barely succeeded, proves much in favor of the pluck and intelligence of the colored voters. Of course a result thus achieved, cannot be permanent.

JOHNSON AND HIS CONFEDERATES.

The public should bear in mind that the kernel of the GRANT-JOHNSON correspondence is, that JOHNSON proposed to nullify a law of Congress, and undertook also to make GRANT do so, too, and take all the responsibility. GRANT refused to assist the President in any manner in his scheme, but on the contrary, by obeying the law, completely frustrated the scheme. We find here the animus of the President and his witnesses; and it is right to infer that when a man or a set of men set out to do an outrageous or illegal act, they will halt at nothing that becomes necessary to the accomplishment of their object. We may be sure that the means will be chosen with reference to the end in view—and in the present instance the end was the destruction of GRANT, a thing that had become doubly necessary. Under these circumstances GRANT, not suspecting what purpose existed, or that any trap would be set for him, appeared in the Cabinet meeting where the President's witnesses appear on the stage. Whoever has seen a straightforward man, speaking and acting nothing but the truth, cross questioned by a set of skillful lawyers, bent on making the "worse appear the better reason," by creating false inferences in obtaining answers which could be tortured into the very opposite to what was intended, and what, in fact, was the truth, will probably have no difficulty in explaining the versions, carefully framed after frequent consultations and with a definite object in view, which the President and his subscribing Cabinet witnesses give of what they understood and inferred from GRANT on that occasion. It futhermore should be borne in mind what are the relations between the President and these subscribing witnesses—the one desperately intent on accomplishing his purpose as against GRANT, the others—mere men and paltry politicians mostly—esteeming nothing so desirable as his continued favor, even though it were to be purchased by becoming his instruments.

A cloud of just such witnesses and any number of just such letters as these, published every week, would not avail to shake the confidence of the public in GRANT's unsupported word. In the present instance it is supported by inherent probability. And with GRANT's acts duplicity is no more possible than an untruthful word in his mouth. The labors of the President and his subscribing witnesses will be in vain. The people will stand all the more firmly by the soldier because of this White House conspiracy to crush him.

RAILROAD POLICY.

[From the Philadelphia North American and Gazette.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL has something to say to Philadelphia. It very often does, though not always in the best temper, nor with much discretion. The COMMERCIAL is very much exercised about our railway affairs. We have read the Pittsburgh papers carefully for a long time, to see what they proposed by way of a change, but with sore disappointment. They have no plan of operation—no way of reaching the acknowledged evil—no remedy for the injury done to both our interests. Yet under the circumstances, Pittsburgh wonders that we quiet, thoughtful, prudent Philadelphians do not do something desperate either to break our own heads or some one else's. We beg to observe to the COMMERCIAL, and to all in Pittsburgh who agree with it, that we have our own way here in Philadelphia of doing things. It is founded on long experience and close observation of the means essential to success, and while it may not agree with the peculiar notions that prevail in the west, we prefer it, and shall adhere to it.

If we were to admit all that the COMMERCIAL says about the Pennsylvania Railroad having made Philadelphia a mere way station between New York and the West, the natural inquiry would be, how shall we remedy it? Shall we benefit our trade by trumpeting such a state of affairs all over the land? The Pittsburgh idea, of course, is that by "pitching in," we should compel a change of policy. We have no such belief. In fact we know that mere clamor would produce no effect. But if we look for an alternative we find that the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad is liable to the same charges exactly. Pittsburgh may not happen to know this. We, however, do. Our merchants were formerly in the habit of doing a profitable business by that route, but it has been mostly arrested by the insane New York mania that has seized all our great railroad companies. The Atlantic and Great Western combination was intended chiefly as a tributary of New York, and the only consideration that made it tolerable to us as a relief is now hopeless. A Free Railroad law is proposed by some as the remedy, and we shall have such an enactment this winter. But men with tens of millions to build competing railroads are not met with every day, and if they should be, we confess that our experience with the Pennsylvania Railroad does not encourage us to place much reliance in them.

This great highway is our own, built with our money, by our own men, managed by Philadelphians, intended exclusively for our behoof. If we cannot trust such a railway, pray whom can we trust? Do we not owe all our petroleum trade entirely to this company? Did not the Atlantic and Great Western line concentrate the whole trade in New York before our Company got to Venango? Has not the programme entirely changed in our favor since the advent of the Philadelphia and Erie line in the oil region? Has not the Pennsylvania Railroad given us the only connection we possess with the bituminous coal region of Western Pennsylvania? Has not the same company given us all the facilities we possess of reaching the lake trade at Erie, Cleveland and Chicago? Is not this route the only one in which we have any possible interest, or by which we have any chance whatever of obtaining western trade?

Pittsburgh may not know these facts, but Philadelphia does, and it is a question whether it is not

"Better to bear the ills we have
Than fly to others we know not of."

But let us here observe that our city does not undertake an onslaught upon the Pennsylvania Railroad, because a large and influential portion of our business men retain all their confidence in it. The Philadelphia Board of Trade stands up for it resolutely. These men are merchants, practical judges, from their own knowledge and experience, as to whether the railroad company is for or against us. They say that it is still managed in our interest, and they ought to know. Before such a verdict we confess that we respectfully pause. We are not merchants. We publish a newspaper. We do not ship goods to the West. If those who do so are satisfied with the railroad policy, all we can do is to submit.

If it is said that we should speak out in louder tones what we think, let us ask what Pittsburgh has gained by doing so. She has roared without ceasing. Yet neither New York nor Baltimore has ever condescended to make a separate railroad connection with her. There stands the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Road a monument of the neglect of Baltimore, and there stands the Allegheny Valley Railroad to attest the contemptuous neglect of New York. On the whole, we think our way of preparing thoroughly for what we do is much the best.

It so seldom happens that a Philadelphia paper discusses "Railroad Policy," that we give the above the benefit of our circulation. As an admission of all we said about the Pennsylvania Central making Philadelphia "a mere way station between New York and the west," and as a plea for submission to its policy in this respect, we think most of readers will agree that it is an amusing specimen. In the article to which the above is an answer, we called attention to the fact that goods were shipped westward over the Central from points east of her cheaper than from Philadelphia; that a corresponding discrimination existed against that city in shipments from the west; and that in view of such facts, what both Philadelphia and Pittsburgh needed was railroad competition, for obtaining which, the restoration of the charter of the Connellsville road afforded a favorable opportunity. We furthermore briefly enforced this policy on Philadelphia by referring to the manifold advantages which New York derives from her railroad and canal lines, all competing for the inland commerce of the country, whereby solely foreign commerce can be created and supported. Now we suggest that these considerations were worthy of treatment different from that which they have received in the above. We gave no invitation to "pitch in;" and if we had done so, in reply to the inquiry, what has Pittsburgh gained by what our contemporary is pleased to style "pitching in," we might refer him to the fact that at this very moment we are rejoicing in the restoration of the Connellsville charter, and the almost certainty of an early opening up there by of an extensive region of the State, to be made tributary to our city; and another avenue to tide-water—not for ourselves alone, but the Great West. This we have gained, and we respectfully ask, to what but "pitching in,"—in other words, persistent effort—is this and the prospect of a Free Railroad Law—to which reference is made with so much hopefulness—due? And we ask, too, how much has Philadelphia contributed to this result? She has always opposed both the Connellsville and Free Railroad Law. As for the Allegheny Valley Road, so far from it being an object of "contemptuous neglect," it is the only independent road in the State that has in many years made any progress,—and we will remark that our contemporary knows very little of its real progress; or, knowing very well about it, the writer is not disposed to admit the facts concerning it.

But the oil regions,—has not the Central made Philadelphia the recipient of the oil of Venango? And what more can she ask? How unreasonable to ask more, says our contemporary, who seems to think that oil and Venango are the beginning and ending of the internal commerce of the country.

We are told that the products of the Venango oil region have been brought to Philadelphia's door, and that for this valuable trade many thanks are due to the Pennsylvania Central. Presuming that the writer and many others are resting under the belief that Philadelphia has a monopoly of the oil trade, and that she ought to regard it as a sufficient recompense for the admitted injurious policy which the Central has pursued in transferring its base and principal business from Philadelphia to New York, we beg leave to submit some facts. Most of them are presumed to be new to our contemporary, and we hope that they will not escape the attention which they deserve to receive, particularly in Philadelphia.

First, then, what is Philadelphia's share in the trade of the Venango oil region, and how much of it is due to special efforts on the part of the Pennsylvania Central?

By referring to tables and figures relating to the subject we find that the whole amount of petroleum forwarded East over the Pennsylvania Railroad during the year 1867, from Pittsburgh and Kiskeminitas Junction, was 580,556 barrels, or 24,383,352 gallons. The entire export from Philadelphia for the same period was 700,891 barrels, or 29,437,429 gallons. It will thus be seen, that of the entire export of petroleum from Philadelphia during the year, was forwarded East *from Pittsburgh* over the Pennsylvania Railroad, excepting 120,335 barrels or 5,054,077 gallons.

Thus we come readily to know how much the Erie Railroad (which our contemporary says has opened up to Philadelphia the oil regions) carried and how much that Road is worth to have this connection. Taking the official figures of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company for the amount transported over their main road, and the figures of export from Philadelphia, we find that the Erie Road conveyed to Philadelphia only 120,335 barrels, against 580,556 barrels over the Central Road from Pittsburgh.

Here, then, we see that Philadelphia's Venango oil trade is from Pittsburgh. That for what she does have she is indebted to the Central, is very true. But whether she has more reason to be thankful for what she has than complain for what escapes her and she might have, is a question we will proceed to examine;—and in doing this we shall settle how much right Philadelphia has to felicitate herself—as our contemporary seems to do—on having a monopoly of the Venango oil trade. This is very easily done by the following figures, showing the exports of Petroleum from Philadelphia and New York for the past six years:

	Philadelphia.	New York.
1862 . . .	2,800,978 galls.	6,720,273 galls.
1863 . . .	5,395,738 "	19,547,604 "
1864 . . .	7,760,148 "	21,335,784 "
1865 . . .	12,552,882 "	14,626,090 "
1866 . . .	28,811,853 "	34,501,385 "
1867 . . .	29,437,429 "	33,834,133 "

It will be seen that Philadelphia, so far from having a monopoly of the trade, has less than half. It is true that she has made a gradual gain, and bids fair, if nothing happens, to divide the trade with New York. And here we come to the important point around which the discussion revolves—what of the future, as affected by railroad competition or the want of it? Luckily here, too, we are not left in the dark any more than in regard to the other points we have gone over, and about which we trust our contemporary knows more than he appears to have known when he wrote the article to which we are applying.

The Pennsylvania Central in 1866 transported 193,069 *less* barrels of oil than in 1867, and should her present policy be continued, the amount must continue to fall off. For this there is the best of reasons—another route will take oil cheaper to New York, whither, as every intelligent oil man knows, the trade is tending, as the necessary consequence of the excessive cost of transportation from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. On this point, too, we beg to draw the attention of our Philapelphia contemporary to some additional facts, which are sworn to.

The Pennsylvania Legislature last year authorized the Judiciary Committee to examine alleged extortionate charges and injurious discriminations by the Railroad Companies of the State. This Committee did their work, and their report is before us. On page 166 we find the testimony of Mr. DAVID KIRK, a well-known citizen of Pittsburgh, and from it we quote as follows; and the reader should bear in mind *that the Philadelphia oil trade is almost wholly from Pittsburgh*, and that that which is spoken of as going to Cleveland includes the New York trade. Mr. KIRK said:

A. I am engaged in the oil trade—refining oil. We complain that we are charged the same rate from Oil City to Philadelphia, as from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia, thus compelling the refiners of Pittsburgh to pay freight from here to Oil City, which in some cases has been $1 00 a barrel. The refiners have thus been compelled to stop. The distance from here to Philadelphia is 365 miles; from Oil City to Philadelphia, 441. Another complaint is that they charge five cents per hundred less on crude than on refined oil; while refined is cleaner and there is less risk from fire; further, it is generally loaded at the refineries without expense to the railroad company. Crude is generally loaded by the railroad company themselves. The next point is that *the Pennsylvania Railroad charge a greater rate per mile, per hundred pounds, on oil, than any other railroad in the country. The refiners in Cleveland get their oil to New York for $1 60 per barrel, when we are paying $1 44.* We pay 45 cents per hundred pounds to Philadelphia for refined oil Q. Is that the rate they charge all shippers? A. Yes sir—one uniform rate. Q. How long has it been uniform? A. The rate was put up on the first of October. It was 40 during the summer season. We have no complaints that there is any special rates for particular persons. We complain that they rob us of their natural position, and that those at Cleveland get their oil carried cheaper than we do. I am chairman of the railroad committee of the Petroleum Association, which consists of the principal men in the trade here. Q. About what quantity of the article is shipped from this point per month? A. In August I think it was 88,000 barrels. At that time the Pennsylvania road lowered their rate to about the proportion it should be, compared with the other roads. The other roads immediately lowered their rates, and the Pennsylvania Central remained the same, and the great proportion of the works in Pittsburgh had to shut down. Our route was relatively the longest route to the sea-board. We went to the officers of the Pennsylvania Railroad and complained of this. They lowered the rate at our solicitation. The others went down and the Pennsylvania Road remained. Q. Can you give the amount of shipments for other months? A. No, sir; those in August exceeded all others. I don't think the others would exceed 50,000 barrels. Q. What proportion of the oil produced at Oil City is refined at this place? A. There is a capacity, I think, of 6,000 barrels a day in Pittsburgh—refined oil. Q. You bring it down from Oil City by water? A. Yes, sir. Our great trouble has been that they take it from Oil City to Philadelphia or New York, as cheap as from here. If they had carried at the same rate per mile, or even one-half as cheap as half the other roads, we could have run and done business. They don't give us the advantages of others. *Mr. Lombaert, Vice President of the Pennsylvania Railroad, said to us that they did not care whether they carried a solitary barrel of oil or not—that they had enough other business without it.*

Mr. H. M. LONG, also an intelligent oil dealer, testified, and from his testimony we extract the following, which we hope our Philadelphia contemporary will not fail to read in connection with what goes before and follows:

Our principal trouble has been the rate established by the Pennsylvania Railroad during the last year. The rate from Cleveland, our chief competition, to New York, was 45 cents per 100, whilst on the Pennsylvania road, from here to Philadelphia, was 50 cents a hundred. The freight from here to Chicago is now $1 00 per barrel on oil, and $1 57 from here to Philadelphia; distances, 486 miles to Chicago. Pittsburgh to Philadelphia 356 miles. They charge us 350 lbs. per barrel for our oil. I have not shipped a barrel or invoice this summer that will average 340 pounds, and yet they continue to do that, in the face of the evidence I have given them. These statements have been made to the Pennsylvania Railroad during the last three months. The rate from Oil City to Philadelphia, via the Warren and Franklin Road, and Philadelphia and Erie Road—controlled by the Pennsylvania Railroad—during the summer, was forty cents a hundred. Q. How far is that? A. 86 miles further than by this route. From Pittsburgh to Philadelphia it was 40 cents per hundred. It is evident that this advantage against us has driven trade from Pittsburgh to a great extent. *Oil was cheaper in Cleveland than we can make it here, and ship to Philadelphia,* thus cutting off one-third to one-half of the business in Pittsburgh. We have been to the office of the Pennsylvania road time and again on this subject. Lard oil and other goods similar to refined oil have been 36 cents a hundred during the summer; at the same time refined oil was 50 cents. We load all our own oil; we give them 200 barrels at a time, generally—50 to 60 barrels in a car. We load and unload our oil, thus doing away with the hire of clerks. It goes to one consignee. In addition to that—I speak for refiners who load their oil at the point—they provide no depot—dump our oil right into the mud. They formerly charged 2 cents a barrel for doing that, but now compel us to do it. They ship this oil to a very great extent on open trucks, thus not only increasing the loss from leakage, but increasing the risk. They oblige us to insure. I believe that Pittsburgh could make and ship 100,000 barrels every month in the year. By the course the railroad pursues we cannot ship more than half that amount. This is the natural place to manufacture oil, and should be the natural point to refine it. We think Pittsburgh should have the benefit of its natural advantages, it being the nearest point to the sea board, and yet we are constantly compelled to pay more than anybody else. The freight is the same from Oil City, but is 68 miles further. I believe it is estimated that the oil men have paid the Pennsylvania Railroad between two and three millions dollars during the last year. An officer of the road said to one of our committee that they didn't care whether they carried any oil from Oil City; they preferred carrying it over the Philadelphia and Erie, ignoring the fact that twelve millions had been spent here to build up the corporation.

Mr. LONG's testimony furnishes the reason why Philadelphia gets less than one-half of the oil trade,—the discriminating policy of the Central Company against the business, whereby it is driven to New York. But there is other testimony—the following by Mr. B. W. MORGAN, another oil dealer, being, as we think, quite pertinent:

The rate is usually too high from here to Philadelphia. If they continue to carry oil over those northern roads, they will compel us to discontinue our business. These northern lines from Cleveland to New York have special rates, by which they get through for $1 00 to $1 25 from Cleveland to New York. It is 200 miles further by that route than from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. I have been to Philadelphia two or three times and talked to the officers of the Pennsylvania railroad. They all say they will protect us but never do it. Mr. Houston told us he would protect us, so that we could make this the manufacturing point for oil. We don't want to be tied down to one line. We load and unload the oil; they have no handling of it; they don't have to keep men to do that. Q. Is there any other way to get your product to market except by the Pennsylvania Railroad? A. No sir. Baltimore, for our business, would be a much better port than Philadelphia, because we could get out there at all seasons of the year. We want another road. Q. Is there business enough to sustain one? A. Yes sir. If they had not broken us down, we should have controlled the business here, whereas Cleveland has now as many factories as there are here. We have in the neighborhood of Pittsburgh fifty-eight oil works; I think we could turn out 28,000 to 30,000 barrels a week; Cleveland can manufacture an equal amount; two years ago they could not make more than 4,000 or 5,000. *By having those competing roads they have been able to build up.* We are compelled to put in a stock in the fall, because in the spring and summer the river goes down so low. Cleveland does not require the capital to operate in business that we do. When the western roads throw in their stock on the Pennsylvania road, they have to put it through, having no place to keep it, and we have to stand back. I understand Mr. Lombaert said he did not care whether they carried any oil or not. The Empire line takes it direct from the wells: any leakage is at their risk, whereas if we ship refined oil, which is not dangerous, they say it is at our risk.

If our contemporary does not by this time perceive how the Pennsylvania Central encourages and protects the oil trade of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, and that what both cities need is railroad competition, we shall despair of enlightening him, unless the following additional testimony by Mr. KIRK will suffice:

During the months of May and June we were paying the Pennsylvania Railroad $1 70 per barrel on oil from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. The Atlantic and Great Western was carrying oil at the same time from Cleveland to New York for $1 53 per barrel. Distance, from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia, 355 miles; Cleveland to New York, 629 miles. The Atlantic and Great Western was carrying oil then for 26 cents per barrel, each 100 miles; the Pennsylvania Central was charging 48 cents for each 100 miles, per barrel. Oil was carried from Oil City to Cleveland, thence to New York, a distance of 777 miles, for $2 08 per barrel; while the route by river and Pennsylvania Central, being 388 miles, was costing $2 30—22 cents against us for a little more than half the distance. The great bulk of the oil went to Cleveland, and the result is a large number of new establishments built there, and the oil trade has comparatively left Pittsburgh, while we have the shortest route and best natural location.

After devoting so much space to this part of the Philadelphia article, we have little left for an examination of the remaining portions. What is said of the trade of the West, and the perfect satisfaction that is expressed with the share our sister city is permitted to have in it over the Philadelphia and Erie road, which is as much as she has "any possible interest" in, or has "any chance whatever of obtaining," will provoke a smile. It would seem that the hope no longer exists that Philadelphia will share in the western trade over the Central, and the expression that "all we can do is to submit," is the sublimity of resignation. We might proceed to produce testimony as to the western trade, and the injurious policy of the Central Company towards Philadelphia in that connection, as overwhelming as that which we have adduced touching the oil trade. But this is unnecessary. All we have to say is, if it suits Philadelphia to be thus dealt by; if her Board of Trade—her merchants and her Press—are content to lie down under this state of things and witness her trade—compared with the annual growth of that of the whole country—dwindle, year after year; to have her manufacturing interests even laid under tribute, by the road her "own men" built,—if Philadelphia is satisfied with all this, nothing is more natural than the folding of arms that we see in the article that we have quoted, and the plea for a little more sleep, a little slumber, which our contemporary—as if annoyed because we disturbed it—has put forth. Although our suggestion—made in the kindest spirit—that Philadelphia and Pittsburgh should join their efforts to secure railroad competition, be rudely repelled; although that which would, anywhere else but in Philadelphia, be recognized as a wide-awake public spirit be treated with contempt, we shall nevertheless believe, for we have reason to believe, that in Philadelphia even another feeling prevails, and that there, though not perhaps to the extent it does elsewhere, exists a disposition to unite in a common effort in behalf of railroad competition.

The South.

Sunday, January 26th, was a remarkable day in Brownsville, Texas. The *Courier* says that up to a late hour the usual fight had not occurred, and professes itself unable to account for this extreme peacefulness of the citizens.

The North Carolina *Star* calls the Raleigh Convention a "Gorilla Convention," and declares that the "unclean birds who compose it, are whetting their bloody beak preparatory to gorging themselves with party plunder."

The Florida *Union* denounces General Meade as a Gesler, and says that there is but one officer (Hancock) who can resist obedience to the Radical Congress.

E. McB. Timoney, who shot C. C. Richardson on the evening of the 4th inst., at Atlanta, Ga., is Secretary of the Loyal League of the State of Georgia. The Executive Committee of the League, composed of leading Republicans from different parts of the State, have unanimously requested Timoney to resign. Both Timoney and Richardson were delegates to the State Constitutional Convention.

A Georgia correspondent contradicts the report that good plantations can be purchased in that State for $1 00 per acre. He says that the people there demand from $6 00 to $10 00 per acre for such land as they call good, while such land as would starve a grasshopper sells from $1 25 to $2 00 per acre. The soil of the State is composed of red clay, very hard and compact, and when dry requires the aid of a chisel and mallet to penetrate it. It is covered with a thin coating of nutritious earth that to all appearance would grow little or nothing, yet they manage in some parts to raise a good crop of corn.

More than 2,000,000 acres of land in Mississippi, one-seventh of all the State, is advertised for sale under execution.

A Frankfort, Kentucky, correspondent says that the half dozen little Union papers in that State are, with one or two exceptions, puny, sickly, half starved concerns, with feeble voice, while the scores of fat, thriving Rebel papers, edited by returned Rebel soldiers, vigorously defend the disorders of the State because they thrive by the unnatural condition of affairs. They countenance as right the persecutions of Union men, because "it enables them to elect Rebel Judges, Sheriffs, Mayors, Legislators and Congressmen, and keeps the Union men from raising too much of a row outside of the State."

A company in the western part of the State of North Carolina find it profitable to get out white oak pipe and hogshead staves, and ship them to Europe.

The Boonsboro (Md.) *Odd Fellow* says that the Hon. J. A. J. Cresswell possesses the confidence of the loyal people of Maryland to a very high degree, as he has stood true to the principles of the Republican party at a time when it cost something to be among the loyal men of the State. The *Odd Fellow* declares its willingness to give Mr. Cresswell its hearty support in the event of his nomination for the Vice Presidency.

The Success of Missionary Labors.

Highly interesting services were held at the Fourth Presbyterian Church in New York on Sunday evening to bid "God speed" to Rev. W. T. Morrison and wife, who sailed on Tuesday for a mission station in China. These missionaries have been in the United States for some time, recruiting their health, which was greatly impaired by several years' labor at Ningpo. They now go to Pekin, about six hundred miles north of their former field. Rev. Dr. Keidig addressed the audience, remarking that when Mr. Morrison first went to Ningpo in 1854 there was but one small and feeble church of twenty members in that city, and these were known among their fellows as "rice-Christians," or persons depending upon the missionaries, or in their employ in some capacity. That Church has since grown into six native independent churches, which receive annually about seventy converts. Mr. Morrison said it was difficult to get christian ideas before the Chinese in their own language, but that the English language is now being taught in the Government schools of the three principal cities of the Empire. He had labored in the mission field of Ningpo for seven years before he had baptized the first convert, and the Methodists were there ten years before they received a single convert. Such has been the success of labor of late, however, that in Pekin there is now a little church of eleven members after only four years' labor. The journey to Pekin, which will now occupy two months, will be reduced fully one-half by the completion of the Pacific Railroad.

Victims of Lotteries.

Almost every day furnishes new evidence to the people that lottery dealing leads to bankruptcy on the part of the infatuated devotee, and to much suffering and financial embarrassment many times to friends. Instances are multiplied where the most desirable positions in society, and the most responsible posts in the business world are sacrificed when the mania of lottery dealing seizes upon and deludes the victim. Louisville papers give particulars concerning the case of the first assistant teller in the United States Surveyor's office in that city who was arrested for embezzling $12,000. Three times since 1861, this man has been bankrupted. When he first began his operations he was conducting an excellent business in the fancy good line, but was soon compelled to sacrifice his all to meet the demands of the lottery dealers. His friends paid his debts and again started him in business, but very soon he found himself penniless once more, and himself and family pensioners on their kindred. Again he was placed on his feet, but the passion for lottery dealing returned, with the humiliating result of an arrest as a thief. It seems that every cent of the money lately stolen ($12,000) and all that was previously lost by the defaulting teller was spent for lottery tickets. He never used a farthing of it for providing for his wife and children.

BOSTON COMMERCIAL CONVENTION.

The Resolutions as They Were Adopted.

The following were the resolutions which were adopted by the Boston Commercial Convention, on Saturday:

1. *Resolved*, That as the existing indebtedness of the nation and of individuals, and the unchangeable values of all property have been practically adjusted to the amount of currency now in circulation, there should not at present be any expansion or contraction thereof, but that the legal tender currency should be gradually but steadily approximated to the specie standard, by the funding thereof, on and after the 1st of January, 1869, in amounts not exceeding three millions of dollars per month.

2. *Resolved*, That the national honor and good faith alike require that the government should not avail itself of the right to pay off the five-twenty bonds until by a general resumption of specie payments, the public debt, as it matures, can be paid in specie or its equivalent.

3. *Resolved*, That the inequality in the distribution of the national bank currency between the different sections of the country requires some action on the part of Congress. Therefore

4. *Resolved*, That to this end, the following change in the national banking law may be recommended to Congress.

That any persons, proposing to form a new bank, may present to the Comptroller of Currency in National bank bills, of any banks having a circulation of more than sixty per cent. of the capital of such bank, the amount proposed as capital of the new bank in greenbacks. Thereupon the comptroller shall cancel such bills and return them to such bank of issue for redemption, returning to such bank the bonds pledged as security, whenever a sufficient amount of bills shall have been cancelled to liberate one or more bonds. And that, thereupon, the persons presenting such bank bills shall be entitled, upon lodging bonds, and otherwise complying with the provisions of the law, to form a new bank, and receive from the Comptroller an issue of currency not exceeding sixty per cent. of its capitol.

Provided, That no national bank currency shall be issued to any new bank in any State in which the amount of national bank currency already issued to the banks of such State shall bear a greater proportion to three hundred millions of dollars than the representative population of such State shall bear to the representative population of the country; and,

Provided, further, That the aggregate amount of currency issued to the national banks shall in no case exceed three hundred millions of dollars, until such time as the banks shall have resumed specie payments.

5. *Resolved*, That a system of free national banking can be safely allowed so soon as bank notes are payable and paid on demand, in coin, and not before.

6. *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the Congress of the United States to enact a law authorizing contracts to be made in writing, which shall be payable in gold or silver coin, and securing the specific performance of such contracts.

7. *Resolved*, That the Congress of the United States should by law supercede the usury laws of the several States, and make seven per cent. per annum the uniform rate of interest, when no contract has been made for any other rate, and authorizing contracts to be made in writing for the use of money at any rate of interest upon which parties, able and willing to contract therefor, may agree.

8. *Resolved*, That the bonds of the United States already issued, were exempted by law from taxation, and that having thus been issued, it would be a violation of the law of contracts to impose a tax upon them now, as well as a breach of faith on the part of the Government.

9. *Resolved*, That this Convention recommend to Congress to provide by law, that from this date no National bank shall be allowed to sell any part of the gold received from the Government as interest upon the bonds pledged for its circulation, until such time as the entire amount of the reserve required by law to be kept by the banks shall be made up of coin.

Mr. Brunot, of Pittsburgh, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this convention reaffirms unanimously our adherence to the principles of national honor and good faith, as indicated in the second resolution of the report just accepted.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and three hearty cheers for the national honor were given.

Progress of Railway Consolidation.

In order to transport the products of the great West, and the cotton from the South, to the seaboard, it has been found necessary to consolidate comparatively short lines of railway, thus forming great through lines of traffic, which in the larger capital and more energy would offer greater facilities for business. The progress of the railway consolidation has been remarkable, and, judging by prices in the stock markets of those companies formed complete, the project is proving of great value to stockholders.

From New York, *via* Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, to Cheyenne, at the base of the Rocky Mountains, a distance of 1,917 miles, but three changes of cars are made, and five companies control the entire distance. Between New York and New Orleans, 1,500 miles, there are two different roads, while between New York and Charleston, only 788 miles, there are also two.

We give below a table showing the cost, length, (excluding branches leased), and cost per mile, of some of our largest roads:

Railroads.	Cost.	Length, including branches owned.	Cost per mile.
Erie	$48,507,541	459	$105,680
New York Central	34,133,911	550	61,560
Pennsylvania	21,135,439	387	54,600
Atlantic & Gt. Wes.	56,357,560	387	145,630
Chicago & Northw	48,234,929	800	54,040
Mobile & Ohio	17,922,359	469	38,250
Illinois Central	41,478,280	708	58,590
Pitts., Ft. W. & Ch	28,841,274	529	45,070

In the construction of the connecting railroad through Philadelphia, uniting the New Jersey roads with the Pennsylvania, and the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore roads, the estimated cost of the seven miles is $2,000,000—nearly $300,000 per mile.

Meteoric Showers.

Observations made at the National Observatory in Washington, give some curious information in regard to the shower of meteors, which occurred in November last. The brighter meteors appeared at a height of seventy-five miles above the earth, and were extinguished at a height of fifty-five miles. The average length of their path was twenty-two miles. During the thickest of the shower they were counted at the rate of three thousand per hour. Their velocity was forty-four miles per second. The thickness of the stream from North to South was sixty thousand miles; and it is estimated that there were forty thousand meteors to a lineal mile, or one meteor to every nine hundred thousand cubic miles of space. Professor Newcomb is of the opinion that Tuttle's comet of 1866, which these November meteors follow, is simply an agglomeration of meteoroids, with sufficient density to be visible in the solar rays; and he thinks that the same is true of the other telescopic comets.

The business of the principal marine insurance companies of New York for 1867, as compared with 1866, is reported. The amount of premiums received by the companies during the two years is given in the following table:

	1866.	1867.
Atlantic	$8,282,021 06	$7,322,015 75
Great Western	3,189,986 29	2,455,253 48
Mercantile	1,436,455 30	1,247,082 00
Sun	2,595,349 21	1,038,467 96
Orient	781,992 65	1,105,845 13
Pacific	980,854 26	796,612 87
Commercial	506,631 28	403,877 54
New York	337,607 95	294,116 87
Union	275,557 70	133,083 62
Washington	558,443 37	Failed.

THE PARIS PRESS.—The governmental restrictions on the liberty of the Paris opposition press, incites the aggrieved parties to all kinds of ingenious devices by which the government will be annoyed. The nineteenth of January, the anniversary of Napoleon's famous letter in which he made large promises of reforms, which he has not yet inaugurated, is noticed very pointedly. The *Epoque* produces the letter itself in a leading column, so set off as to look to a casual reader as a new letter, just from the Emperor. The *Globe* had an article, framed in mourning, headed "*January 19th*," and filled with an enumeration of the sad occurrences of the year; including the exhibition, the expedition to Rome, the death of Maximilian, and the persecutions of the press.

A CHECK ON OFFICIAL RASCALITY.—The New York State Legislature is now considering a plan by which the desperate rascality of the New York city officials will be checked, in the expenditure of the people's money. A panel of property owners, consisting of two hundred and fifty persons who pay taxes on more than $10,000 each, is to be made up by the Mayor, and from the number twenty-four are to be drawn by lot. The jury thus selected are to pass upon all estimates of public expenditures, and no money is to be raised by taxation, unless a levy for it is first approved by the tax jury.

A PAPER recently read before the Statistical Society of London computes that the income of all classes of population of England, Ireland and Scotland is £821,279,00 per annum. The sum appears so enormous that we may well look into its distribution. It is estimated that the upper and middle classes, who have regular incomes, from some source or other, varying in amount from £100 to as many thousands, receive £496,000,000 of the whole, and the mutual labor class £324,000,000. The number of people in the former class actually in receipt of incomes, and not dependent for their living upon others, is 2,759,000, and in the latter 10,962,000.

AN ACCOMMODATING POST OFFICE.—A fierce controversy has been going on for some time past between the citizens of a town in Massachusetts, relative to the plan and location of a post office. The leading paper now announces, with evident gratification, that the "great war" is ended; for a wealthy and public spirited citizen has offered to build a post office on wheels, and the post master has accepted the proposition, while a civil engineer is to keep him informed as to the exact centre of the village. The office will roll about from point to point as the town grows and the center changes.

THE NEW ORLEANS LEVEES.—We see by the New Orleans papers that the levees in that city are caving in to an alarming extent. From Clonet street down to the refinery, below the Convent, about one thousand feet of the outer edge of the levee and bulkheads have slipped into the river, and will need to be repaired before the next rise or that portion of the city will be overflowed. At the point opposite Clonet street the levee has sloughed off within six feet of the curbstone, and presents a threatening appearance.

GEORGE H. PENDLETON is down on National banks, and is in favor of taxing these banks—on the stump. But all the time he is a large stockholder in one of these institutions, and also a *director*; and when it comes to paying the taxes levied by a Republican Legislature, he says: "No, sir, my bank stock is not taxable."

Mr. James Lenox, of New York city, announces his intention to found a Presbyterian Hospital for the use of the sick and injured of that denomination, and for that purpose he proposes to give a valuable plot of ground and $10,000 in cash as soon as a charter can be obtained and a Board of Trustees chosen.

HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatch to Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 6, 1868.

SENATE.

Petitions, Bills, &c.

Mr. Errett presented a petition for a Passenger Railroad from Pittsburgh to Temperanceville.

Also, a remonstrance from Pittsburgh against limiting the pay of Jury Commissioners.

Mr. Taylor, of Beaver, introduced a bill repealing the act of April 11th, 1866, extending the limits of the borough of Beaver.

Mr. Errett, of Allegheny, a bill regulating the fees of Sealer of Weights and Measures in Allegheny, reducing the fees for testing platform scales.

The Contested Election Case.

The Senate then adjourned until Monday evening, to allow the committee on the contested election case of Robison against Shugart to visit Wilkesbarre to investigate the alleged fraudulent issue of naturalization papers.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Public Bills Passed Finally.

Relating to county rates and levies;

Providing for supplemental assessments;

Validating bounty payments to persons accredited to districts where they did not reside;

Senate resolutions relative to Secretary Stanton and General Grant;

Appropriating $172,631 to meet deficit in soldiers' orphan department;

Urging the Secretary of State of the United States to demand from England the release of persons held upon mere suspicion of political offenses, and insisting upon a fixed policy in reference thereto.

Public Bills Defeated.

Repealing the act compelling railroad and other corporations to pay counsel fees of plaintiffs in certain cases.

Requiring the county from which the property is stolen to pay expenses of trial, &c., of the person so charged.

Abolishing days of grace on negotiable paper.

Abolishing special assessors of bank stock and transferring their duties to township and ward assessors.

The bill repealing the license liquor law of last session was postponed until Wednesday.

Pending discussion of the bill repealing the law preventing Sunday car running, adjourned.

HARRISBURG, PA., February 7, 1868.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Bills Passed Finally.

Supplement for Mechanics' Savings Bank, Pittsburgh, which authorizes investments in State and National securities.

Authorizing the South Western Normal College to borrow fifteen thousand dollars for building purposes.

Empowering the authorities of McKeesport, Allegheny county, to commit orderly persons in default of fine.

Incorporating the Lawrenceville Gas Company, of Allegheny county, with a capital of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Incorporating the Building and Saving Association, of Pittsburgh, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars.

Authorizing the School Directors of Bellevue, Allegheny county, to borrow money.

President Judges of the State.

Mr. Hicks, of Schuylkill, offered a resolution requesting the State Treasurer to report the number and names of all the President Judges, with the amount received by each in 1867. Adopted.

Bills Reported Favorably.

Bill for a bridge over the Ohio, from West Pittsburgh and Temperanceville to Allegheny city, was reported affirmatively.

Also, bill incorporating the Pittsburgh and Temperanceville Passenger Railroad.

Also, for a steam ferry over Allegheny river from Canal street to Herr's Island.

The postage account of the House for January was $4,956.

Adjourned till Monday evening.

HARRISBURG, February 10, 1868.

Petitions.

By Mr. Riddle, of Allegheny, to authorize the school directors of Hampton township to refund to John Grubbs and William Williams money advanced for bounties.

One from citizens of Pittsburgh and Duquesne for a steam ferry from Canal street to Herr's Island.

Also, from Robinson and Chartiers townships against the repeal of the act to prevent horses, cattle, &c., from running at large.

By Mr. Wilson—Remonstrance against the passage of a supplement for the Monongahela Valley Railroad.

Also, against the People's Passenger Railway.

Also, petition for change in fees for inspection of platform scales in Allegheny.

By Mr. Beckert—One from eight hundred citizens and miners of Allegheny and Westmoreland against the use of large screens and unjust measures of coal, &c.

Also, from Duquesne borough for annexation to Allegheny City.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Riddle, of Allegheny—Changing the name of George Glenville Tuck to George Glenville Tuck Jeremy.

Providing for the sale of franchises of turnpike companies to pay indebtedness.

Authorizing the appointment of two additional notaries public for Allegheny City.

Enabling the school board of the Fifth ward, Allegheny City, to borrow thirty thousand dollars for school purposes.

By Mr. Wilson, of Allegheny, enabling East Birmingham to issue one hundred thousand dollars in bonds for funding.

Relative to Western House of Refuge, obliging counties to pay the costs of children admitted.

Incorporating Wilkinsburg Gas Company.

By Mr. Jackson, of Armstrong, extending act relative to livery stable keepers in Allegheny to Armstrong and Butler.

Changing name of Back street in Kittanning to Grant avenue.

Authorizing the State Treasurer to examine into the claims of George W. Cass, Washington McClintock, and Addison Leech in consequence of the abandonment of the Western Division of Pennsylvania Canal.

To take the sense of the people of Freeport, Armstrong county, upon the question of a prohibitory law.

Exempting persons attending funerals, schools, seminaries, military parades, &c., from payment of tolls on the ferry over the Kiskeminitas at Leechburg.

By Mr. Nicholson, of Beaver—Preventing fishing with seines and nets in rivers and creeks in Beaver county.

Authorizing the appointment of an additional Notary Public at Beaver Falls, Beaver county.

By Mr. Deise, of Clinton—Prohibiting the confinement of persons in asylums without judicial examination.

By Mr. Meek, of Center—Providing a penalty for carrying oil or fluids on cars, and compelling railroad companies to provide seats for passengers.

By Mr. Beckert, of Allegheny—Incorporating the Pennsylvania Cheese Company.

Annexing a portion of Duquesne borough to Allegheny City.

Mr. Deise, of Clinton—Extending to canal companies the privileges of railroad companies to deepen, widen and improve canals and increase facilities for transportation of property.

By Mr. Herr, of Dauphin—Establishing a penitentiary for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

The Committee on Pensions introduced a bill for the payment of pensions to soldiers of 1812 and their widows.

Adjourned at half-past ten o'clock, P. M.

SENATE.

Remonstrances.

A remonstrance from the Town Council of Duquesne borough against loss of a portion of its territory; also, against the passage of act authorizing compensation of School Board of Elizabeth for services as Bounty Board.

Mr. Taylor, of Beaver, presented a petition asking for the extension of the limits of Bridgewater borough.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. Errett—Incorporating the Consolidation Savings Bank of Pittsburgh.

Incorporating the Pittsburgh and Colorado Silver Mining Company.

Incorporating the Liberty Driving Road Company for a turnpike between East Liberty and Pittsburgh.

Authorizing Hampton township to levy a tax to reimburse Wm. Williams and John Grubbs for bounty money advanced.

HARRISBURG, February 11, 1868.

Petitions.

By Mr. Errett, of Allegheny—From seven hundred miners of Allegheny county for change in the law as to coal screens.

By Mr. Taylor, of Beaver—One to prevent fishing with seines in Beaver county.

Also, one for the repeal of the act extending the limits of Beaver borough.

Bills Introduced.

Mr. Cowles, of McKean—A general fee bill, being the same as passed by the House last winter.

Mr. Errett, of Allegheny, authorizing the city of Pittsburgh to borrow one million of dollars for improving and extending the water works.

Also, one exempting Allegheny county from the provisions of the act of May 3, 1866, compelling railroad companies and other corporations to pay counsel fees of plaintiffs in certain cases.

Mr. Fisher, of Lancaster, a general pension law for all soldiers of 1812 and widows not worth over five hundred dollars.

Reward for a Murderer.

Mr. Fisher, of Lancaster, offered the following joint resolution:

WHEREAS, During the hearing of evidence in the case of J. K. Robison against Samuel T. Shugarty, one of the sitting members of the Senate from the Twenty first Senatorial District, a certain John Casey was examined as a witness on behalf of said J. K. Robison, contestant, and said Casey, after examination, was waylaid in the county of Clearfield and so abused that he has since died.

Resolved, That the Governor be and is hereby authorized and required to offer a reward of two thousand dollars for such information as will lead to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons committing said offense, and that the Treasurer of the Commonwealth be authorized and required to pay the said sum. Passed finally.

Mr. Fisher said that three persons had been arrested but were discharged yesterday on *habeas corpus*. The principal was still at large. Mr. Wallace of Clearfield, said the crime was an infamous one.

Mr. Connell, of Philadelphia—Bill prohibiting Courts from changing the names of corporations.

Mr. McConaughy, of Adams—A joint resolution urging Congress to protect American artists by a heavier tariff on foreign pictures and artist's materials. Passed finally.

The petroleum and oil inspection bill was considered.

Mr. Errett moved to amend by confirming sales after condemnation solely for redistillation or export. Adopted.

Mr. Searight moved to amend by reducing the term of inspector from four to three years. Adopted, and the bill passed finally substantially as agreed upon by Committee.

Bills Passed Finally.

At the evening session the following bills passed finally:

Authorizing Rochester borough, Beaver county, to borrow $3,500 for enlarging a school house.

Relative to election precincts in Allegheny county.

Extending to Mount Washington, Allegheny county, the vehicle license law of 1860.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Bills Passed Finally.

Prohibiting the hunting of game in Findlay, Robinson and Scott townships, Allegheny county.

Punishing destruction or injury of graperies, fountains, &c., in Beaver county.

Repealing the incorporation of the Gettysburg Asylum for Invalid Soldiers.

Increasing fees of Justices and Constables in Armstrong county to the amounts named in the act of 1865.

The Monongahela Valley Railroad.

A bill authorizing the Monongahela Valley Railroad to build a road from Pittsburgh to Monongahela City by whatever route a majority of the Directors may determine; thence to Rice's Landing and to extend the main line to West Virginia.

Mr. Ford, of Allegheny, moved an amendment confining the route to the banks of the Monongahela river.

Messrs. Wilson, of Allegheny, and Playford, of Fayette, spoke for the amendment, and Ewing and Day, of Washington opposed. The amendment was defeated. Laid over for third reading.

Adjourned till evening.

EVENING SESSION.—Mr. Hickman's Constitutional amendments were debated till very late, the lobbies being crowded. The disposition of a majority of the Republicans is to indefinitely postpone the question.

At a quarter past eleven o'clock the question was postponed until Tuesday evening and made the special order. The pending motion of Strang, of Tioga, was to recommit it to the Judiciary Committee with instructions to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill to call a Constitutional Convention.

Mr. Hickman was very severe on Republicans who had opposed his amendments, calling it dodging, murder, inconsistency, &c.

HARRISBURG, February 12, 1868.

SENATE.

Bills Introduced.

By Mr. White, of Indiana—Authorizing change of name and increasing par value of stock of Indiana and Westmoreland Gas Coal Company.

By Mr. Searight, of Fayette—Authorizing the School Directors of Connellsville to borrow money.

Supplement for Uniontown Gas and Water Company.

New County Defeated.

The bill erecting a new county, to be called Petroleum, out of parts of Crawford, Forest, Venango and Warren, was defeated by a vote of 13 to 16.

EVENING SESSION.—The Free Railroad bill came up for discussion.

Mr. Landon, of Bradford, moved to substitute the bill agreed upon by the Senate Railroad Committee, requiring ten thousand dollars to be subscribed for every mile proposed. Adopted.

Mr. Errett, of Allegheny, afterwards moved to substitute $4,000. Lost.

Mr. Lowry, of Erie, moved to substitute $7,000. Lost.

Mr. Searight, of Fayette, offered an amendment allowing local companies to build roads of thirty miles with the stock subscribed by the farmers and residents along the line at $6,000 per mile. Lost by a vote of 15 to 17.

Adjourned at ten o'clock without a vote. The bill is regarded as effectually defeated.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Passed Finally.

The joint resolution which passed the Senate last night, offering a reward of two thousand dollars for the apprehension of the murderer of John Casey, passed finally.

Gas Inspector.

The bill authorizing the appointment of a State Inspector of Gas, was amended by the substitute of Mr. Thorn, of Philadelphia, and passed second reading.

Bills Passed Finally.

One introduced by Mr. Ford, of Allegheny, repealing the Tioga landlord and tenant law for Allegheny, Cambria and Lawrence counties.

One incorporating Millville borough, Allegheny county.

Authorizing the Peoples' Savings Bank of Pittsburgh to increase its capital stock, and declare dividends out of net earnings.

Incorporating the Commercial Printing Company of Pittsburgh.

Incorporating Artizans' Deposit Bank of Pittsburgh.

Adjourned till evening.

EVENING SESSION.—The bill authorizing the Monongahela Valley Railroad to build a track from Pittsburgh to Monongahela City by such route as the directors may determine, thence to Rice's Landing and extending the main line to Virginia was considered.

Mr. Playford, of Fayette, offered an amendment confining the route to the Monongahela River, passing through the town of Elizabeth, which was defeated. The bill passed to second reading, Mr. Playford refusing to agree to a suspension of the rules for its final passage.

Thomas Mullin, of Philadelphia, introduced a resolution condemning Treasurer Kemble for his correspondence with August Belmont & Co. Disagreed to—yeas, 23; nays 53.

The oil inspection bill passed finally and will go to the Governor for his signature.

XLth CONGRESS.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 6, 1868.

In the Senate to-day, Mr. Sherman reported the funding bill, which the Finance Committee have been considering for some time past. It provides for the issue of registered and coupon bonds of the United States, payable principal and interest in coin, and bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, and bearing date so as to require the payment of an equal amount of the interest quarterly, such bonds to be payable forty years from date, and redeemable in coin at the pleasure of the Government after ten years from date, and to be issued to an amount sufficient to liquidate outstanding obligations of the United States, other than the existing 5 per cent. bonds, and to be exchanged for such obligations and to be disposed of in such manner and on such terms, not less than par, as the Secretary of the Treasury may deem most conducive to the interest of the Government; and the said bonds shall be exclusively used for the redemption or in exchange for the existing securities of the United States. The bonds are to be exempted from taxation in any form. It appropriates out of the proceeds of duties on imported goods annually an amount equal to one per cent. on the bonds issued under this act, which sums shall be received and annually applied to the purchase and payment of the national debt. It legalizes all contracts made specially payable in coin, and strikes out the provision relative to a foreign loan.

Mr. Sherman gave notice that he should call the bill up immediately after the conclusion of the debate on reconstruction.

Mr. Henderson, from the Finance Committee reported the bill previously introduced by himself, repealing the limitation of the National Banking bill in regard to the amount of the circulation of national banks, and allowing any banking association, depositing with the Treasurer the necessary securities, to issue national bank currency not exceeding eighty per cent. of the par value of the bonds so deposited; provided that whenever the amount of United States and circulating notes of national banks combined shall be in excess of seven hundred million dollars, the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and required to retire and cancel as rapidly as practicable United States notes to the extent of such excess until the whole amount of United States notes outstanding shall be reduced to two hundred and fifty million dollars.

A bill was passed to provide for the representation of the United States in the maritime exhibition to be held at Havre next summer.

Mr. Drake made a speech on reconstruction, and Mr. Harlan got the floor for to-morrow on the same subject. No executive session was held.

The House resumed the consideration in the morning hour of the bill in relation to the rights of American citizens abroad. Mr. Chanler, of New York, addressed the House against this particular bill. No vote was reached.

The House took up and passed the West Point appropriation bill, and spent the rest of the day on the legislative appropriation bill.

The Morgan and Delano contested election case is still before the Committee on Elections, but will probably be disposed of this week and reported to the House on Monday. Mr. Delano closes his argument to-morrow. The Missouri contested case in the Ninth District, of Switzler against Anderson, comes before the committee for argument on the 13th inst.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 7, 1868.

Congress was dull to-day. In the Senate, Mr. Sherman called up the House bill relating to the Island in the Great Miami River, and explained that the title to this island in the State of Ohio was vested in the United States. It had been occupied by parties for fifty years, and the object of the bill was to enable these parties to enter the lands on which they had settled for pre-emption. The bill was then passed and goes to the President.

Mr. Patterson, of New Hampshire, called up the bill in addition to the act regulating the tenure of civil office. The blanks authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster General to appoint special agents were filled with the number twenty-five. The bill was debated for the rest of the day, and finally passed.

In the House, Mr. Price, of Iowa, from the Committee on Pacific Railroad, reported a bill restoring to actual settlement the even numbered sections of land along the line of the Union Pacific Railroad and branches. Passed.

The House consumed the rest of the day on the Civil Appropriation bill, without important result.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 10, 1868.

In the Senate to-day the reconstruction debate was resumed, and Mr. Harlan, of Iowa, spoke in favor of the pending bill. Nothing else of importance occurred.

In the House, after two hours were occupied in a new drawing of seats, the rest of the day was consumed on the Legislative Appropriation Bill.

Thad. Stevens made a motion, which was agreed to without debate, referring all of the evidence taken by the Judiciary Committee on impeachment to the Reconstruction Committee. No little significance was attached to this movement.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 11.

Congress was without legislative interest to-day. In the Senate Garrett Davis moved as a substitute for the instructions to the Judiciary Committee, proposed by Mr. Doolittle, to report that this bill do not pass, and also to report a bill repealing all the revolutionary acts. On this proposition, Mr. Davis addressed the Senate at great length. When the hour of adjournment was reached he had got as far down as the enactment of the Missouri Compromise.

In the House the morning hour was devoted to speeches on the bill to protect American citizens abroad, after which the Legislative Appropriation bill was passed.

A spicy debate took place on an amendment to abolish the salary to a short-hand writer to the President, which was agreed to.

WASHINGTON, D. C. February 12, 1868.

In the Senate to-day most of the time was taken up in discussing a resolution providing for an inquiry into the circumstances attending the ejection of a colored woman from the cars of the Washington and Alexandria Railroad. The debate took a wide range, and embraced a variety of topics. Mr. Conness, of California, took occasion to scold Mr. Sumner for the dilatoriness in reporting some bill to stop outrages upon American citizens in Great Britain. Finally, the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Sherman introduced the following bill, which was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

WHEREAS, The people of the State of Alabama have, in strict compliance with the 5th section of the act of March 2d, 1867, entitled, "An act to provide for the more efficient government of the rebel States," formed a Constitution of Government in conformity with the Constitution of the United States, framed by a convention of delegates elected in compliance with said act; and whereas, said Constitution has been ratified by a majority of the qualified persons voting on the question of ratification, and said Constitution contains all the guarantees required by said act; therefore,

Be it enacted and declared by the Senate and House of Representatives that the State of Alabama is entitled to representation in Congress, and Senators and Representatives shall be admitted therefrom on their taking the oath prescribed by law.

A bill to admit Colorado was reported from the Committee on Territories, by Mr. Yates, of Illinois.

The House spent the day on the legislative appropriation bill, and had the usual annual debate on the appropriation for seeds for the Agricultural Bureau. All propositions to increase it were voted down. A final vote on the bill was not reached.

THE CAPITAL.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, February 12, 1868.

Nomination Confirmed.

In executive session to-day the Senate confirmed Noah L. Jeffries as Register of the Treasury. There was a sharp contest over the case, and many of the Republicans bitterly opposed the confirmation. No action was taken on the case of Mr. Cox as Minister to Austria. Several of the leading Republican members of the House held a conference to-day, and agreed to press the bill for the admission of Alabama to a speedy passage, notwithstanding the recent vote in that State.

Senator Morton and the Presidency.

The Indiana State Republican Convention for the nomination of delegates to Chicago meets on the 20th at Indianapolis. Leading Republicans of the State have tendered Senator Morton the vote of the Convention as the first choice for President, but he has declined it, and it will undoubtedly be unanimous for Grant. The friends of Colfax are making a strong effort to get him indorsed for Vice President.

Order from Secretary Stanton.

General orders number nine, just issued by order of the Secretary of War, promulgates the joint resolution of Congress for the relief of destitute persons in the South, authorizing the distribution of dessicated potatoes and mixed vegetables, which have accumulated during the war and are not needed for the army. This is the first general order issued by Mr. Stanton which has been made public. He has issued a number of special orders, signed "By order of the Secretary of War," but all the special orders beginning "By direction of the President" are signed by command of Gen. Grant, and then follows the signature of the Adjutant General.

The Impeachment Question.

The Reconstruction Committee reassemble to-morrow. Another movement will be made by Thad. Stevens, should he be able to be present, to proceed at once to the work of impeachment. Mr. Stevens has to-day drawn up the articles at considerable length, and has elaborated the idea which he advanced at the meeting of the Committee on Monday, charging the President with forming a conspiracy to defeat the civil tenure law. He will lay these articles of impeachment before the committee, and ask a vote on them at once. It is very evident, however, from the opinions of the majority of the members of the committee as expressed at the meeting on Monday, the articles will be voted down. Mr. Stevens was quite ill to-night, and may not be able to be present at the meeting of the committee to-morrow.

The New Orleans Councils.

Gen. Grant was at the War Department this morning and had an interview with Secretary Stanton, which was prolonged for some time. The question of Gen. Hancock's course relative to the order issued to him revoking his reorganization of the New Orleans City Councils was under discussion, but there are no new developments. Gen. Hancock has not yet asked to be relieved.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

WASHINGTON, February 7.—The following is the public debt statement for February 1:

Debt bearing coin interest	$1,912,363,041 80
Debt bearing currency interest	308,705,630 00
Matured debt not presented for payment	12,288,169 19
Debt bearing no interest	418,024,845 51
Total debt	$2,651,384,686 50
Amount in Treasury, coin	$98,491,162 70
Amount in Treasury, currency	25,578,150 61
Total	$124,069,313 31
Debt less cash in Treasury	$2,527,315,373 19

The warrants issued in January to meet the requirements of the government, including interest on the public debt, but not those for redemption of public debt, amount to $42,799,800.

Receipts of customs for the week ending January 31. were $2,066,975.

CANADA.

TORONTO, February 12.—A telegram has been received from the Mayor of Halifax, thanking the citizens of Toronto for donations for the benefit of the distressed fishermen, and stating that no further subscriptions are required.

The Corn Exchange Association to-day passed resolutions indorsing the narrow-gauge railway system.

MONTREAL, February 12.—The mails have been very irregular the past few days, in consequence of the roads being blocked with snow. The exportation of silver continues active.

ALABAMA.

MONTGOMERY, February 11.—In thirty-four counties the vote for the constitution stands 51,723; registration in the same counties, 111,269. This includes all the negro counties but Hale and Marengo. The twenty-six remaining counties have white majorities. To carry the constitution, 86,000 votes must be polled.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

The London Press.

LONDON, February 12.—American newspapers containing the report of the Congressional proceedings on the matter of allegiance and citizenship, have been received. The comments of the press here are generally favorable to the views expressed in Congress. The speech of Gen. Banks is especially noted and commended.

Solicitor General.

William B. Brett, member of Parliament from Helestone, has appointed to succeed Selwyn as Solicitor General.

Resignation of Bismarck.

PARIS, February 12.—*La France* to-day insists that Count Bismarck has asked permission to resign.

Fined for Libel.

Felix Belly, the well-known French railroad contractor of Central America, has been sentenced to pay a heavy fine for publishing a slanderous article against the government of Nicaragua.

Bismarck and Von Beust.

BERLIN, February 12.—The North German *Gazette*, generally regarded as the private organ of Bismarck, has an editorial to-day in which it finds fault with the policy of the Austrian Minister, Baron von Beust, and declaring he is pursuing a dangerous course in too zealously befriending the exiled Princes at Hanover.

Abyssinian Expedition.

LONDON, Evening, February 12.—Important dispatches have been received from Abyssinia. At last accounts General Napier was at the front, pushing on the advance, and the hostile forces were drawing nearer to each other. Reports had reached Annesley Bay that skirmishes had already taken place between the British advance and the forces of King Theodore, but no particulars are given. Official dispatches from General Napier are anxiously awaited.

London Money Market.

LONDON, Evening, February 12.—Consols closed at 93⅜@93½; 5-20s 71⅞; Illinois Central, 88½; Erie, 48¼.

U. S. Bonds at Frankfort.

FRANKFORT, Evening, February 12.—United States Bonds, 75½.

Liverpool Market.

LIVERPOOL, February 12.—Cotton closed rather more quiet but firm: middling uplands, 8⅜d; Orleans, 8¾d: sales 20,000 bales.

BREADSTUFFS.—Corn, 43s 6d. Wheat 15s 10d for California white, and 14s 4d No. 2 for red Western. Barley, Oats and Peas unchanged.

PROVISIONS.—Beef, 117s 6d. Pork 72s 6d for new. Lard, 54s 9d. Cheese, 52s. Bacon, 38s 9d.

PRODUCE.—Sugar quoted at 24s 6d. Naval stores quiet. Tallow steady at 42s 9d. Refined Petroleum, 1s 2½d.

Antwerp Petroleum Market.

ANTWERP, February 12.—Petroleum closed at 41 franc. 50 centimes for standard white.

PENNSYLVANIA FINANCES.

Racy Correspondence—Messrs. Rothschild, August Belmont and the State Treasurer of Pennsylvania on the Payment of the State Stock in Currency.

The following correspondence explains itself:

NEW YORK, January 28, 1868.

To the Treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania:

We have received from Messrs. N. M. Rothschild & Sons, of London, $190,886 10 Pennsylvania State five per cent. stock, which we send to Philadelphia for redemption, to be followed in a few days by a further lot of $100,000.

Besides these, Messrs. Rothschild hold about $200,000 more of stock already overdue and becoming due this year. These gentlemen again complain of the injustice of the action of the State of Pennsylvania, in forcing its creditors to accept payment in a depreciated currency, and have instructed us to receive payment only under protest, as heretofore.

They would, however, prefer to hold the stock, if an arrangement could be made with your State for a continuation of the loan, and will only accept payment now, if compelled to do so by a discontinuance of the interest. We have written to the Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank of Philadelphia to confer with you on this subject, before accepting payment, and we beg you will give this matter your serious consideration, and let us know whether an extension as desired by Messrs. Rothschild is possible. Hoping soon to hear from you, we remain yours, respectfully,

AUGUST BELMONT & CO.

HARRISBURG, January 30, 1868.

Messrs. August Belmont & Co., New York—

GENTLEMEN:—In reply to your note of the 28th, I beg to say that no arrangement can be made by which the Messrs. Rothschild can retain the old loan (now overdue) and continue to draw interest on it.

You state that should no arrangement be made you will be compelled to accept payment under protest. To this we have not the slightest objection. Your complaints about the injustice of our not paying you in gold may seem just to you, but to us they seem ridiculous.

I have no doubt Messrs. August Belmont & Co. had many liabilities out, when the legal tender act was passed, which became due after gold had risen to a premium of eighty. I have not yet heard of their conscience compelling them to pay in gold instead of the legal tender. We are willing to give you the pound of flesh, but not one drop of Christian blood.

Respectfully,

W. H. KEMBLE, State Treasurer.

NEW YORK, February 4, 1868.

SIR—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ult., addressed to my house, in reply to our application on behalf of Messrs. N. M. Rothschild & Sons, of London, who had instructed us to receive payment of the Pennsylvania State stock now due, under protest in case the State should not pay the principal in coin, and in case no arrangement could be effected having in view a continuation of the interest and an extension of the time of redemption of the capital.

Messrs. Rothschild act in this matter as trustees of the holders of the debentures of the late United States Bank of Pennsylvania, residing in England and on the Continent of Europe. You seem so well acquainted with the financial transactions of States and individuals that you must know that by these debentures hundreds of widows and orphans have been reduced to beggary.

Messrs. Rothschild, in trying to save for their constituents all they can out of the wreck, have made through my house an application, which they as well as I deem just and equitable, and this application was made in a courteous and respectful manner. In so doing Messrs. Rothschild have evinced a new proof, if any was wanted, of their strict and honorable appreciation of the obligations assumed by them as trustees for the innocent holders by their house, a negotiation based principally upon the faith of the State of Pennsylvania and its great banking institution.

Your reference to the liabilities of my house, contracted in coin and assumed by you to have been paid in currency, is as impertinent as it is untrue in point of fact. August Belmont & Co. have never declined to meet any demand for the payment in coin of any liability contracted by them in coin, before or since the legal tender act.

If they had adopted the course towards their creditors which you propose to take on behalf of the State of Pennsylvania towards her unfortunate creditors represented by the Messrs. Rothschild, there might have been some excuse for the lack of courtesy which you have exhibited in your letter to them.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to express my regret that the State of Pennsylvania should have for its Treasurer a person who could so far disgrace the State he assumes to represent, and forget the dignity of the office he holds, as to reply to a civil business communication in a manner which must raise the blush of shame on the cheek of every citizen of that great and honored State.

I am your obedient servant,

AUGUST BELMONT.

WILLIAM H. KEMBLE, Esq., State Treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania, Harrisburg.

THE LIES ABOUT GEN. GRANT.

Incontrovertable Proof that they are Lies.

General Halpin, editor of the New York *Citizen*, has been to Washington surveying men and things in general, more especially with reference to the Presidency. Of Grant's alleged drunkenness he writes as follows:

I have conversed with at least a score of officers who are known to me as gentlemen incapable of falsehood, and who, from their positions, have been for the past six or eight months in daily—some of them in hourly official relations with General Grant, from 9 o'clock A. M. until 4 o'clock every afternoon, Sundays excepted; and by every one of them—three, at least, being known to me as personally and politically opposed to General Grant—the slanderous statements of the *Independent*, *Anti-Slavery Standard* and Mr. Wendell Phillips have been indignantly and vehemently contradicted. I have also conversed with numerous ladies upon the point,—and the experience of every fallible husband or brother with whom occasionally "the olives may have disagreed," will suggest what strict judges of such matters these ladies are; and from every quarter, without distinction of social caste or party, the same evidence has been given: These attacks upon General Grant, in female phraseology, are "total and scandalous fibs;" for he has been out every night in society at balls, dinners or Germans with Mrs. Grant; and his habits have been temperate in the extreme—even so much as a glass of champagne being rarely tasted at the dinner-table or at supper. It is humiliating—and so felt by the writer—to be obliged to correct such partisan falsehoods in regard to the chief soldier of our Armies; but is it not a thousand-fold more humiliating to such gentlemen as Theodore Tilton or Wendell Phillips, that they should have allowed themselves, without sufficient examination, to have been made General Butler's instruments or "conveniences" for the circulation of such atrocious libels?

Republican County Convention.

At a meeting of the Allegheny County Republican Executive Committee, held Wednesday evening, it was resolved that an election for delegates be held in the several wards, boroughs and townships, on Saturday, 29th inst., who are to assemble in convention at the Court House on Monday, March 2d, to elect delegates to the State Convention. A discussion was had on the question of substituting the "Crawford county system" of voting at primary elections for the present delegate system, which resulted in the appointment of a Committee, consisting of General A. L. Pearson, Captain C. W. McHenry and Mr. W. N. Ogden, to correspond with other County Committees as to the mode of carrying on elections, and report at a subsequent meeting. The Committee adjourned to meet on Wednesday, 19th inst.

Weekly Commercial.

Farm, Garden and Household.

GRAPE CULTURE.

The next annual meeting of the Lake Shore Grape Growers' Association will be held at Cleveland on Wednesday and Thursday, the 19th and 20th inst. No formal programme has been arranged for the occasion, but there is reason for the belief that this meeting will be as interesting and important as any yet held by the Association. The following are some of the topics that are expected to come before the meeting for discussion or action:

Reports and statistics of the progress and prospects of grape culture along the lake shore and elsewhere; amount of grape products the past season, etc. Observations on marketing and sale of the fruit, style of boxes, modes of packing, preserving, shipping, prices realized in different markets, etc. Comparative merits of the different varieties of grapes, their success or failure the past season in different localities and soils. Report of the committee on must tests, showing the comparative richness of the juice of different grapes from various localities and at different dates the past season. Causes of failure, mildew rot, insects, climate, exposure, pruning, and other interesting questions connected with grape culture, will be discussed.

A correspondent writes to the *Gardener's Monthly* requesting him to name ten of the best varieties of grapes. The editor names Hartford Prolific, Concord, Delaware, Clinton, Creveling, Diana, Rogers's 15, Northern Muscadine and Ives. These are named as suitable for cultivation with a view mainly to profit.

Grape vines not attended to last autumn should be pruned in the first mild spell that occurs. Whenever the frost is fairly out of the ground.

TAPPING SUGAR MAPLE TREES.

The time will soon be at hand when "maple sugar making" will engage the attention of farmers' boys and girls. The value of the product of our "sugar camps" has greatly increased of late years, and the deterioration, or rather destruction of the maple trees, in beginning to excite some attention. The Ohio *Farmer*, alluding to the fact that where thousands of maples used to stand, only hundreds are now to be found, says:

The cause of this can be attributed to nothing but the severe mode practiced in tapping. The old plan of boxing with the axe was abandoned, and one supposed to be less injurious adopted, that of boring; but since tapping with the bit has been practised, maple trees have died faster than ever before. When an incision is made into the sub-wood only, it will heal up, but when made deeper, it never will, and all the adjacent parts will die, and often decay. Now, in proof of this, let any farmer examine two maples that have been tapped for a dozen or more years—one with a bit and the other with an axe or gouge—the cuts by the latter not made beyond the sap-flowing wood. The inner wood of the former and much of the surface will be found dead, while the other, where it has sufficient time for healing, will be found to have formed a perfect gnarl, so tough and sound that it will be next to impossible to split a log of it, stove-wood length. Another proof of this may be made by noting the difference in the decrease of maples in different sugar orchards where the two modes have been practiced.

Trees tapped receiving the least injury are most profitable, for the reason that the greater portion of sap flows from the wood near the bark. When a tree is tapped with a bit, the spile stops up the best flowing grains. When an incision is made with a large auger or gouge more grains are opened, and of course a greater flow of sap obtained. It is a fact, however, that when trees are tapped in this way, the wind dries up the wood sooner than when a bit is used, but this is easily prevented by frequent freshing over. Many farmers have, within a few years past, used sheet-iron spiles and a large auger, and have found them profitable and less injurious to the trees than any other kind.

The spouts are made by cutting sheet iron strips two inches wide and ten inches long, bent hollow, and one end ground sharp. An auger one and one-fourth inches in size is used for tapping, the hole not being bored over three-eighths of an inch deep, and the spile driven into the bark beneath the cut with a square-faced mallet. When freshing over, an auger is used each time one-eigth of an inch larger than the one before it, and the incision made but a shaving deeper. The spile will not have to be removed to do this.

POULTRY MANURE—HOW TO SAVE AND USE IT.

Poultry manure, one of the most valuable fertilizers made upon the farm, is too often allowed to go to waste. Put the sweepings in old barrels as fast as they accumulate. In a dry state they will keep a long time without much loss. It is customary to mix these droppings with wood ashes, without much attention to definite proportions, at the time of planting, and drop them in the hill for corn and potatoes. If care is taken to keep the seed from contact with the manure, they produce very satisfactory results. But this is not the best way of using it. Two or three weeks before planting, mix the contents of the barrels with about three times their bulk of moist loam or peat under cover. When the mass is well heated, shovel it over and mix with it as much more loam or peat, and let it lie until wanted. This may be worked into beds prepared for garden seeds, or dropped, a handful to the hill, for field crops, and will always tell a good story at harvest time.

FARM LABOR.

The *American Agriculturist* thinks that our farmers do not employ enough laborers to make farming profitable. It is admitted that the rates for labor are high—averaging $28 per month—and adds: We think there must be a little reduction from these prices the present year. There has been a large accession to our population from Europe, the most of them males, in the prime of life, who have come to this country seeking labor. They have strong hands and willing hearts, intent upon improving their fortunes and in due time getting homes of their own. Many of these go West, but multitudes linger at the East, and can be employed at reasonable prices upon the farm. Then it is to be considered that our manufacturing interests are somewhat depressed, and wages are reduced from ten to twenty per cent., and some establishments are stopping. This will throw some out of employment, and they will seek support upon the farm, which alone has bread enough and work for all. The prospects for agriculture the coming year are exceedingly promising everywhere, except in the cotton States. We have raised, the past year, the best wheat crop ever produced in the country, and the prices are satisfactory. The corn crop, short in some States, was, on the whole, an average, and the prices high. Potatoes were a very short crop, and the prices higher than for many years. With a few exceptions, everything the farmer produces brings a good round profit on the cost of production, showing that the business can be safely extended. We think, as a rule, our Northern farmers do not employ as much labor as they ought, to make their business profitable.

GIRDLED TREES.

A correspondent gives the following method for repairing trees which may have been girdled during the winter by mice or rabbits: "With a sharp chisel, about a half or three-fourths of an inch wide, make several incisions around the tree, downward into the bark and wood just below the girdled portions. Then make several similar and corresponding incisions upward into the bark and wood just above the girdled part. Into these fit round portions of apple limbs, with the bark on, sharpened into a wedge at each end. These form a connection between the upper and lower bark, through which the sap flows upward and the elaborated juice flows downward, and if these portions are placed thickly around the tree, they soon unite together at their sides, and form a complete belt. The places of union must of course be waxed. Connecting the two separated portions of bark in this way has long been practiced, but this particular mode of doing the work by means of a chisel, is little known and is the only one of any value, as it can be done with great expedition. It scarcely ever fails to secure union, and the wedge at each end fits so securely, as not to be easily displaced." This operation must be performed before vegetation starts.

WASHING FRUIT TREES.

Washing and scraping are of great benefit to neglected trees, and washing, at least, may be done with advantage on all fruit trees. It destroys the young and almost invisible growth of mosses and lichens, kills dormant insects that have hidden in crevices, and improves the tree generally. Various tree washes have been recommended, but there is probably nothing better than good home-made soft soap, thinned with water to work conveniently with a brush. It is best to apply it in a damp, but not rainy, time. Remove the loose scales of bark by means of a blunt scraper.

FLOWER GARDEN AND LAWN.

A practical florist gives the advice to always have the garden look different each year. The advice is good, and is capable of being followed even in very small places. Take a single bed in a lawn. One year it may be gay with Coleus and other "foliage plants;" in the fall, plant Hyacinths, Tulips, and other bulbs; in early spring, sow Portulaccas to make the bed gay when the bulbs have passed out of bloom. In a similar way each bed in a lawn can every year present some new feature. Of course in borders where there are herbaceous perennials, there must be some sameness in their appearance for several years in succession. Yet if these are so planted as to allow room for the introduction of clumps of annuals or bedding plants, a pleasing variety can be made, and be different every year.

GRASS AND CLOVER SEEDS.

These may be sown toward the end of the month, if the frost is pretty well out of the ground and the surface open and fissured. The sowing is easiest done on a light snow, when the seed may be seen, and an even cast secured. To this end, it is often well to sow in two directions across the field, and sometimes even three, as sowing grass seed upon a lawn. Suitable weather for this frequently does not come until March. Avoid sowing where melting snows will wash the soil away, or move the seed unevenly.

THE SPADE OR THE DIGGING FORK.

We are very much surprised, says the *Gardener's Monthly*, notwithstanding all we have written on the subject, to find so many people sweating away at digging with a spade, when in nine cases out of ten the digging fork will do four times the work in the same time, with inexpressibly less labor. It is scarcely necessary to say that the people we see so barbarous are not our readers, but even "our own" people do not seem to know that a four tined fork is much better than a five tined one.

WINTER FEED FOR MILCH COWS.

A gentleman having applied for information as to how much feed was suitable for a milch cow in winter, is thus answered by the *American Agriculturist:* The quantity depends upon the size of the cow. She should have as much hay as she will eat up clean, and at least four quarts of Indian meal per day, or its equivalent in other kinds of grain. Roots are exceedingly desirable for milch cows. We err in giving too little oily and succulent or moist food to cows in milk.

RETRENCHMENT IN EARNEST.

Government Expenditures for the Ensuing Fiscal Year.

Mr. Blaine, of Maine, made the following important statements in submitting the Army Appropriation Bill last week in the House of Representatives. We extract his remarks from the *Globe* of February 7th:

Mr. BLAINE. In submitting the Army Appropriation Bill at this time, Mr. Speaker, for reference to the Committee of the Whole, I desire to call the attention of the House to the total amount comprised in it, which is $33,082,093. This is deemed by the Secretary of War and by General Grant sufficient for all the expenses of the military establishment so far as they can be foreseen or foretold at this time. Nothing but the outbreak of hostilities in some quarter can increase the amount now appropriated. The adjustment of our Indian troubles, which produced the necessity of extra expenditure the past year, leaves no room for any apprehension of deficiencies to be met by future appropriation.

General Grant's estimates for military expenditures have been made with the greatest exactness and with a degree of economy wholly unknown to the army on its peace establishment preceding the war. I find, by the official statement of the Secretary of the Treasury, which I hold in my hand, that the total expenses of the army for the four years of Mr. Buchanan's Administration were $86,307,575 55, making an average of well nigh twenty-two millions a year in gold. The army at that time was composed of nineteen regiments in all; so that each regiment cost considerably over a million dollars per annum in gold. The army is at present composed of sixty regiments, and the total appropriations required by General Grant are but $33,000,000 a year in paper money, making little more than half a million dollars to each regiment. In other words, the army, under the peace establishment immediately preceding the war, cost per regiment more than double in gold what the army now costs per regiment in paper under the peace establishment as administered by General Grant. With the gradual reduction of the army, as proposed in this bill, it is easy to see that in the course of a year or two our military expenses will be lessened to such a degree as no longer to be felt as a burden to the tax-payer.

Thus much in regard to the army. The work of the Committee on Appropriations is so far advanced and made public that I am at liberty to present in this connection a brief recapitulation showing what our total expenses will be for the ensuing fiscal year. For the Navy we have reported $18,096,045—an ample sum if the House shall sustain my friend from Illinois [Mr. Washburne] in making the valuable retrenchments and reforms which are incorporated in the bill. The naval expenses for the four years of Mr. Buchanan's Administration were $52,545,998 89, showing an average of more than thirteen millions per annum in gold. With a very much larger navy, and with the disadvantage of paper money and high prices, our appropriations this year are but a trifle over $18,000,000 for the entire service.

The remainder of the ordinary expenses of the government are embraced under the following heads, and will not materially differ from the figures I give, namely:

Executive, legislative and judicial, embracing all the salaries and expenses in the various Departments	$17,119,478 31
Postoffice Department	4,050,000 00
Consular and diplomatic	1,261,434 00
Indian Department	3,000,000 00
West Point Military Academy	303,000 00
Miscellaneous expenses of all kinds, embracing both annual and permanent appropriations	14,000,000 00

These several items, in addition to the army and navy appropriations, whose amounts I have already given, show a grand aggregate of $90,912,047 32, constituting what are known as the "ordinary expenses" of Government. This aggregate does not present any very large increase over the expenditures of a similar kind preceding the war. I find by reference to official documents that during the first year of Mr. Buchanan's administration the "ordinary expenses," under precisely the same headings which I have included above exceeded $70,000,000 in gold. And I submit that $70,000,000 in gold in 1857-58 was a much larger amount, relatively considered, than $90,000,000 in paper in 1868-69. And it must be borne in mind that with these $90,000,000 in paper we are maintaining a much larger army and navy than were supported ten years ago.

Our extraordinary expenditures are those which result directly from the war. We shall appropriate $20,330,000 for pensions, and I presume no one will propose to withhold or reduce this amount a single dollar. We shall likewise be called upon to appropriate $25,000,000 in carrying into effect the bounty laws of 1866-67; and this will not be objected to by any one who remembers that it goes to the men who risked their lives and maimed their bodies in the service of our common country. We shall also expend $130,000,000 in paying off the interest on our public debt; and this item can only be reduced by repudiating the obligations which were solemnly incurred in the name of the nation and for the preservation of the nation's life.

Adding these three large items of pensions, bounties and interest to the "ordinary expenditures" which I have already cited, and we find the grand total of expenditure for the year 1868–9 will amount to $275,912,047 32. The item of $25,000,000 for bounties is of course temporary and not to be counted among our regular expenditures. Deducting it from the sum total just named for the fiscal year 1868–9 and the amount would be a trifle over $250,000,000. With the bounty paid and our Army and Navy reduced, as we propose to reduce them, our total annual expenditure in future years will not exceed two hundred and twenty-five or two hundred and thirty million dollars; and I have no doubt the Committee of Ways and Means will be able to show us that this amount can be raised without any oppressive burden upon the industry and enterprise of the country, and with a vast reduction in our present system of internal taxes.

STATE NEWS.

Altoona is to vote again for or against a city charter. "City" has been defeated twice, but its advocates are determined to "fight it out on that line."

Levi Summy, formerly a Coroner of Lancaster county, died very suddenly on Saturday at Penningtonville, Chester county, where he had been recently living.

The assets of Elk county show an excess of $17,843 02 over liabilities.

At the late borough election in Brookville, the Republican ticket was elected entire.

The wife of Jacob McCloskey, of Fox township, Elk county, froze to death between that place and Centreville, on Thursday night last. She was on foot and within a short distance of her home, when, evidently overcome by the cold, she laid down to "sleep the sleep that knows no waking."

Paul Bachinger, a fireman of Lancaster, who was subject to fits, run to a fire with the Humane Engine on Saturday, and the violent exercise produced convulsions which caused his death in four hours.

Gen. John Fraser, formerly Professor of Mathematics in Jefferson College, Canonsburg, and now President of the Pennsylvania Agricultural College, has been elected President of the Kansas State University, located at Lawrence, and he has indicated a disposition to accept the appointment. The institution is endowed with over 30,000 acres of land, and $15,000 in donations, principally from the late Amos Lawrence, of Boston.

The price of gas in Philadelphia is to be reduced, after a long and persistent effort on the part of consumers to that end.

The journeymen carpenters of Philadelphia are about to establish a reading room and library.

A Young Men's Christian Association of Northampton county has been converted into an Ethiopian Minstrel Troupe and is giving concerts in that county for the benefit of the poor.

The Bellefonte glass works are again in operation, after a brief suspension.

A telegraph line between Lock Haven, Bellefonte and Tyrone is now in operation, and messages are being transmitted over it. It is styled "The Bald Eagle Valley Telegraph Line."

The Odd Fellows and the Directors of the Lykens Valley Bank have purchased a lot in Millersburg for the erection of suitable buildings for those two institutions.

It is said that in certain parts of Delaware and Bucks counties the cattle disease continues to rage.

The Chester, Delaware county, waterworks are nearly completed, and will cost about $120,000.

Union county has three thousand dollars in the treasury, and no debts.

The Feature of Catholicism.

The *Tablet*, after quoting the remarks of the Boston *Pilot* about the prospective increase of the Roman Catholic population in this country, with the rejoinder thereto from the *Evangelist* (Presbyterian) of New York, asserts that if the increase of the Catholic population should continue during the remainder of the century in the same ratio to that of the non-Catholic population of the country, that it has increased since the year 1785, Catholics would, by the year 1900, be the majority. Non-Catholics do not keep pace with the ratio of the increase of the population of the country, and Catholics greatly exceed it. Should this continue the time must come when Catholics will outnumber non-Catholics. That this nation will sooner or later become Catholic the *Tablet* firmly believes, as will all other nations now schismatic, heretical or heathen.

A Protestant writer in *Frazer's Magazine* for January says: "England, if not Europe generally, may perhaps witness in the coming century some great Catholic revival which the decline of Protestantism compels us to contemplate, and it is more easy to see the ultimate result than the means by which its returning influence can be effectually combined."

Harrisburg hotels have wonderfully improved, as the *State Guard* says they are the best kept in the United States.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 12, 1868.

The loan market is working comfortably for borrowers, but the demand is less active. Lenders generally believe that money will tighten up in a fortnight or so, and seem indifferent about letting out large amounts at any reduction in rates. Good paper, however, can be placed at about three or four per cent. above bank rates. The banks, we are told, continue to accommodate customer paper on a pretty liberal line. The offerings, however, do not indicate any revival in trade, and much that is discounted represent renewals in some shape or other.

—Stocks last evening sold below the average prices bid a few weeks ago, although they show in the main a good deal of firmness.

—Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co., bankers report the following quotations for governments as received from Jay Cooke & Co., their New York correspondents:—U. S. 6s 1881, 112½; U. S. 5-20s, '62, 111⅜; do '64, 108⅞; do '65, May and November, 109¾; do '65, January and July, 107¾; U. S. 10-40s, 104⅞; May, 1865, Compounds, 117⅜; June 7-30s 107⅝; July 7-30s, 107⅝; Gold, 141⅜; 5-20s, '67 107⅞.

Messrs. James T. Brady & Co., bankers, report the following rates for governments today:—Gold, 141⅜; U. S. 6s, 1881, 112¼; U. S. 5-20s, 1862, 111⅜; do 1864, 108⅞; do 1865, 109¾; U. S. 10-40s, 104⅞; U. S. 5-20s, January and July, 1865, 107¾; do 1867, 107⅞; June 7-30s, 107⅝; July do, 107⅝; May Compounds, 1865, 117⅜.

—The New York stock market is held pretty much in check by cliques who have realized when figures were high a short time ago, but none are ready to load up in a low market. Already many of the leading stocks have been forced down five and six per cent., but it is difficult to keep back an advance on account of the easy money market, and many of the roads are now on a paying basis, and their stocks are good purchases as an investment alone leaving out the fluctuations. The *Herald* says: It is understood that the speclative director in Erie is now in favor of a rise, he having bought largely of the stock last week; but whether he is or not matters little, as it is impossible for any one leading stock to resist the influence of the general market beyond a certain point, which has now been passed in the case of Erie. There is no good and sufficient reason why the latter should be selling fifty-six per cent. below New York Central, and either the one is much below or the other much above its real value. All the indications favor prolonged speculative activity on the stock Exchange, and the railway earnings are on a scale calculated to strengthen confidence in values. The prevailing monetary ease is not likely to be interrupted until late in the year, if at all, and meanwhile the dullness of trade will leave a vast amount of unemployed capital in Wall street, under the influence of which there is but one way for prices to tend.

The quotations at noon to-day did not vary materially from yesterday.

—The Philadelphia *Ledger* remarks that the dry goods trade, which has been for a year past more depressed than almost any other, has brisked up considerably, and for a fortnight the orders for goods have been liberal for this season of the year, and cotton goods, especially muslins, have advanced from one to five cents per yard from the jobbers. Everybody in business seemed to feel that the lowest point in prices had been passed, in produce as well as in merchandise. The relief of the market in money matters, in connection with the increased price of raw cotton, has assisted the upward movement. But how long this cheerful, buoyant feeling is to continue, is somewhat doubtful. There is again evidence of a derangement of business from growing complications at Washington, and as public sentiment was ready to discount a favorable sign a month ago, from which sprung increased confidence and ease, the same public sentiment stands ready to discount any new evidence of a collision of authority, the mere apprehension of which could scarcely fail to impair confidence and unsettle business. If the impeachment proposition against the President be merely sensational, but shall be pressed with a determination to carry it through, and to oust the President pending trial, there will necessarily follow alarm and distrust, for it is asserted that the President will not peaceably submit to that proceeding, but will forcibly resist. On this point we have this marked declaration in his last annual message. It says, "cases may occur in which the Executive would be compelled to stand on its rights and maintain them regardless of all consequences. If Congress should pass an act which is not only in palpable conflict with the Constitution, but will certainly, if carried out, produce immediate and irreparable injury to the organic structure of the Government, and if there be neither judicial remedy for the wrongs it inflicts, nor power in the people to protect themselves without the aid of their elected defender; if, for instance, the Legislative Department should pass an act even through all the forms of law to *abolish* a co-ordinate department of the Government—in such a case the President must take the high responsibilities of his office, and save the life of the nation at all hazards." These declarations apply directly to the very thing, according to report, now contemplated by Congress—the impeachment of the President. If Congress does what is suggested, and the President maintains the "high responsibilities of his office," as he has avowed "regardless of all consequences," the next thing following in order is revolution or rebellion and what then becomes of public credit or that confidence in the future on which trade has recently so manifestly improved?

Cincinnati Provision Circular.

From the provision circular of Geo. W. Phillips, Jr., we learn, that the market for provisions during the past week, has gradually improved, not only in Cincinnati, but at all other points, and a growing confidence on the part of holders, has done much to check trade on orders at limited prices, though there has been a gradual advance and the full prices demanded, have had to be paid, or no trade. That the crop of hogs in pounds will be lighter than last year there can be no doubt, and the foreign and home consumptive demand in the small way has been large in the aggregate, yet the footing of the packing and the stock on hand, leaves a large portion of the pork interest uncertain as to ultimate results of profits at the prices paid for hogs, and until the final statement of the total packing is furnished, much doubt will exist as to the future of the trade. Hogs—All of our slaughtering concerns may be considered as closed and the season fully over, and shortly the count of the packing will be made up. The receipts for the season, according to the books of the Camber of Commerce, amount to 363,425. The result may vary when packers' returns are received.

Mess Pork—There has been no change in price during the week. Old is in demand at $21 and 50c more asked. New city can be sold at $22, generally held higher; country 25 to 50c less.

Rumps—$15 to $16 50, as in quality.

Lard—Owing to the advance in Europe and the advance in gold, has improved in demand, and best city at the close is held at 14c, with buyers ¼c less, and choice country, at country points where freights are no greater than from here, could be sold at 13¾c; prime steam 13c; head and gut scarce at 12¾c.

Greases—Firm at 9@9½c for brown, 9¾@10¼c for yellow, and 10½@11¼c for white.

Bulk meats—Quiet but steady at 8½c, 10½c, 11c and 11½c for loose shoulders, rib sides, clear rib and clear sides, or ½c more packed. Bulk hams scarce at 12c for desirable cuts; sweet pickled hams 13c, packed.

Bacon—Fair demand at 9¾c, 11½c, 12c and 12⅜c packed for shoulders, sides, clear rib and clear sides; sugar-cured hams 15@16c, canvassed and packed.

Plate beef—Scarce at $20 50@21 50.

Beef hams—$30 00 ℔ bbl.

Dried beef—17@17½c, uncanvassed and canvassed and packed.

Flour and Grain at Chicago.

The amount of flour and grain in store at Chicago, as made from the returns of the warehousemen, on Monday last, was as follows:

FLOUR.		OATS.	
Flour, bbls	82,705	No. 1 oats, bush	524,996
Same time 1867	73,482	No. 2 do	344,718
WHEAT.		Rejected do	2,995
No. 1 spring, bush	113,689		
No. 2 spring	702,337	Total oats	872,709
No. 3 spring	75,133	Same time 1867	698,838
Rejected spring	28,056	RYE.	
No. 2 red	4,760	No. 1 rye, bush	27,940
		No. 2 do	7,573
Total wheat	923,975	Rejected do	1,321
Same time 1867	677,751		
CORN.		Total rye	36,834
No. 1 corn, bush	126,400	Same time 1867	130,393
No 2 do	112,398	BARLEY.	
Rejected do	3,959	No. 2 barley, bush	88,521
New	1,712,714	Rejected do	17,520
Total corn	1,955,471	Total barley	106,041
Same time 1867	653,183	Same time 1867	322,866

The footings compare as follows:

	Feb. 3, 1868.	Jan. 17, 1868.	Feb. 3, 1867.
Flour, bbls	82,865	74,029	83,482
Wheat, bush	92 975	831,188	677,750
Corn, bush	1,955,471	1,557,907	653,183
Oats, bush	872,709	770,807	698,838
Rye, bush	36,834	34,817	130,374
Barley, bush	106,641	112,236	322,860

The grain markets were depressed and heavy in view of the unfavorable advices from New York and Liverpool, and a lower range of prices prevailed throughout the almost entire list.

Flour—Notwithstanding the decline in wheat, and the easy character of the Eastern advices, says the *Times* of Thursday last, the Flour market continues steady, and the former prices were almost invariably realized. The demand was also tolerably active, though buyers were limiting their purchases to current necessities, and the total sales foot up something like 3,000 bbls. The inquiry was chiefly for the best brands of spring extras. Sales of white winter extra were restricted to 40 not named, $13 75. Sales of red winter extras were: 50 not named, $10 50; 50 do, $10 35; 50 do, $10 00. Sales of spring extras were: 500 Becker's Double Extra, $10 90; 200 Cole's Choice Extra, 30 Afton, and 300 D. W. & Co's Star Mills, $10 50; 100 Silver Creek, $10 25; 100 Star and Crescent, 300 Dater's Advance, and 200 Oriental, $10 00; 75 Galloway, and 200 Uhl's Triumph, on terms not made public; 30 not named, $9 87½; 200 do, $9 75; 200 do, $8 75. Sales of winter superfines were: 100 not named, $8 00; and of spring superfines, 200 not named, $5 00, and 50 do, $6 50. Sales of buckwheat flour were limited to 20, not named, $8 50. Receipts on Wednesday, 4,755 bbls; shipments 4,058 bbls.

HOPS.

NEW YORK.

The market continues very dull at the following quotations: New York State, common to fair, 20@35c; good to prime, 40@45c; choice to fancy, 50@55c; Eastern, common to fair, 20@35c; prime to choice, 45@55c; Wisconsins, choice to fancy, 50@58c; Michigans, common to fair, 20@30c; good to prime, 40@50c; yearlings of all grades, 10@40c; Canadians, common to fair, 35@40c; prime to choice, 50@55c; Bavarians, common to fair, 40@45c; prime to choice, 50@55c; Belgians, 35@40c ℔ lb.

Emmet Wells's circular says: "The dullness and depression of this week's trade is unprecedented—now leaving some doubt of a verification of the late predictions of our dealers that prices had reached the lowest point. At no time since the first issue of these reports, which was in the season of 1865, have we been more baffled in our efforts to present a true and unbiased opinion of the real position of this market; for the reason, that never before have we known so much diversity of opinion to exist relative to the future course of the trade. Here we are with a brewing season of nearly seven months before the coming of the new crop, and with a much smaller stock of desirable hops in market than we had the corresponding season of last year, and many brewers are in less supply than will carry them through another month; at the same time the market has been steadily declining since the first of January, and to-day we hear of a reshipment to Europe of 300 bales Bavarians, there being no market for them here at anything like remunerative prices. In this situation, holders who are anxious to realize must judge a little for themselves the best course to pursue."

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 12, 1868.

The general markets have ruled dull all the week, and prices without much change. Flour is in moderate demand. There is nothing of any consequence doing in grain of any kind. A small advance is noted in the better grades of Rio coffee, and in A and B coffee sugar. There is an active demand for bacon and prices are advancing.

The receipts of leading articles of produce since our last were as follows: Flour, 600 barrels; apples, 54 barrels; corn, 344 sacks; wheat, 76 sacks; barley, 260 sacks; rye, 170 sacks; oats, 466 sacks; and butter, 14 packages.

We quote as follows, which are the wholesale store prices, unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—Choice apples are scarce and selling at $6@6 ℔ bbl, as to quality and quantity purchased. The receipts are very limited.

ASHES—We quote common soda ash at 4½c; refined at 5½c, and pearls at 11@12c ℔ lb, as to quality and amount of sale.

BACON, LARD, ETC.—The market is firm and advancing. We note the following sales: 15,000 lbs S. C. hams at 16¾@17c; 9,000 lbs shoulders at 10¾@11c; 5,000 lbs rib sides at 13c; 2,000 lbs clear sides at 14c; 2,000 lbs dried beef at 20c, and 15 tierces lard at 14¼c ℔ lb.

MESS PORK—We quote mess pork, full weight, at $23 50 ℔ bbl.

LARD OIL—Market firm at 95c for No. 2, and $1 15 ℔ gal, for extra No. 1.

BROOMS—We have reported sales of 150 doz No. 2 western at $2 50 ℔ doz.

BEANS—Very few choice beans in market, and prices are considerably higher. We quote prime navy, from store, at $4 50 ℔ bush.

BUTTER—The receipts have been more liberal, and prices have declined within the past week. We quote choice at 35@38c, and fair at 30@33c ℔ lb. Sales reported of 1,000 lbs roll at 35c, and 500 lbs packed at 30c ℔ lb.

EGGS—Fresh eggs command 35c ℔ dozen.

DRIED FRUIT—We quote choice peaches, halves, at 10½@11½c, and apples at 7@8½c ℔ lb, according to quality.

CRANBERRIES—Sales noted of 20 bbls cultivated at $15@16 ℔ bbl.

HOMINY—Sales to the trade are made at $6 50@7 ℔ barrel for flint.

HAY—Loose timothy hay from country wagons sells at $15@20 ℔ ton, as to quality, and baled hay from store at $22 ℔ ton.

POTATOES—We quote Peachblow potatoes at $3 25 @3 50 ℔ barrel, or $1 05@1 10 ℔ bushel.

CHEESE—We note sales of 50 boxes Goshen at 18@19c, and 40 boxes Western Reserve at 15c ℔ lb.

SEED—Flax seed is in fair demand at $2 35 ℔ bush. For other kinds of seed there is very little demand and prices are to some extent nominal. We quote Timothy seed at $2 50@3 ℔ bushel, and clover seed at $7 75@8 ℔ bushel.

GRAIN—There is very little doidg in grain of any kind. Speculators are not inclined to take hold at present prices, anticipating a general decline at an early day. The Pittsburgh Elevator is however very busy at present transferring corn from Western to Eastern cars, and more than 100,000 bush will be sent forward the present week. Barley is in better request than any other kind of grain, and we quote spring selling at $1 90@2 00 ℔ bush. In the absence of sales of any consequence reported we quote as follows: Oats from first hands 63@64c, and out of store 68@69c; shelled corn from first hands 98c@$1, and from store $1 05@1 10; rye from first hands $1 35@1 37, and from store $1 40@1 45 ℔ bush. There is nothing whatever doing in wheat except the amount purchased by millers to keep their mills in operation, and they are fairly supplied with red winter wheat at $2 40@2 42, and white wheat at $2 47@2 50 ℔ bush.

CORN MEAL—Dull from store at $1 05@1 10 ℔ bush.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—There has been a moderate demand, and we quote from store at $4 25@4 50 ℔ 100 lbs.

RYE FLOUR—The store mill prices for choice rye flour is $8 ℔ bbl. Sales reported of 3 tons in bulk at $4 ℔ 100 lbs.

FLOUR—Market remains almost without change from the reports we have given for some days past. The demands appears to be altogether for standard brands of spring and medium winter wheat flour. The mills have made a reduction on their best brands, and we quote the Pearl Mill prices as follow: Double extra family, wholesale, $13 00 in bbls and $12 70 in sacks; do retail, in bbls, $13 50, and in 49-lb sacks $3 35 each. Extra family, wholesale, in bbls, $12 50, and in sacks, $12 20; do retail, in bbls, $13 00, and in 49-lb sacks, $3 20 each. We annex a schedule of prices of a variety of brands as selling to-day:

T. C. Jenkins's prices, wholesale flour dealer, Checkered Front, No. 273 Liberty street:

Dayton Snowflake	$ 12 50
White River	11 50@11 75
Jenkins's Lily Mills	11 25
Favorite	11 25
Pearl's Best	11 00
Medium brands	9 00@10 50

Groceries.

The market remains firm for all discriptions of goods. In soft crushed sugars prices are higher, and we note an advance in the higher grades of Rio coffee. We quote.

COFFEE—Old Government Java, in bags, 37c; in mats, 38c; Laguayra, 26@27c; Rio, choice 27c; prime, 25c; good, 23c; roasting, 20@21c.

SUGARS—Porto Rico, 14@16c; Cuba, 13@14½c; Sugar House, 11⅛@12⅛c; Granulated, 18c; Powdered, 18c; Crushed, 18c; A Coffee, 17¼c; B do, 16¾c; extra C, 16½c; C 16; New Orleans 14@15½c.

MOLASSES—New Orleans, 85@95c; Porto Rico, 70@80c; Cuba, 60@70c; Demerara, 85c.

SYRUP—Lovering's, $1 00; other choice brands, $1 00; fair to good, 60@85c.

TEAS—Young Hyson, common to finest, 90c@$1 85; Imperial and Gunpowder, do, $1 25@2 00; Japan, 90c@$1 25; Oolong, 90c@$1 75.

RICE—Carolina, 11@12½c; Rangoon, 10½@11½c.

VINEGAR—Pure white wine vinegar, in original packages, 75c; common 25@30c.

FISH—No. 1 Shore Mackerel, $18@19; No. 2 Shore, $15; No. 1 Bay do, $20; No. 2 Bay do, $15; No. 3 large do, $12 50@13 00; Lake Herring, $3 75; White Fish, $6 75. Codfish, 5@6c ℔ lb.

SODA—English Bicarb 9c. American 8c.

SPICES—Pimento, 25c; Pepper, 38c; Cloves, 45c; Nutmegs, $1 60; Cassia, 80@85c.

SOAP—McKeon, Van Haagen & Co.'s Chemical Olive, 11½c; Babbett's, 11½c; Oakley's, 11c.

LYE—Concentrated Lye, $7 25.

CANDLES—Proctor & Gamble's star candles, 25c for full weight; mould candles, ℔ lb, 18c.

INDIGO—Madras 90c@$1 50; Manila 95c@$1 45.

BAR LEAD—12½c.

DROP SHOT—13c.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 13, 1868.

BUSINESS—The market yesterday exhibited more activity. Buyers were more inclined to invest. The result was the operations in both crude and refined exceeds any day for some time past. Holders (more particularly as relates to crude) were firm and not inclined to make concessions in order to effect sales. The Eastern markets have undergone no quotable change. The Philadelphia rates were: Prime light straw to white 21c; standard white 21¾@22c; crude, packages included, 15@15½c. New York—Prime light straw to white 20½c; standard white 24½c; crude, in bulk, 10½c. Oil City dispatches quote the market firm with an active demand at $2 50 ℔ bbl.

In our own market we are furnished the following:

CRUDE—The market was firm with a fair inquiry for spot all. We note the following: Sales 1,000 bbls bulk, first water, 7⅝c; sales 1,500 bbl March, 7⅝c; sales 800 bbls April 7¾c. The sales of spot oil were as follows: 1,400 bbls at 7¼c; 2,000 bbls at 7⅜c, and 1,000 bbls at 7¼c ℔ gallon.

REFINED OIL.—The principal inquiry was for future delivery, extending from May to November. The sales reported reach 8,000 bbls, as follows: 500 bbls S W, on call, last half July, 24c, $1 00 ℔ bbl paid down; sales 500 P L S to W, immediate delivery in Philadelphia, at 21½c; 7,000 bbls, Philadelphia, S W as follows: 1,000 bbls, May, 25c; 1,000 bbls, June, 25½c; 1,000 bbls, July, 26c; 1,000 bbls, August, 26½c; 1,000 bbls, September, 27c; 1,000 bbls, October, 27½c; 1,000 bbls, November, 28c ℔ gallon.

Oil City Oil Market.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

OIL CITY, February 12, 1868.

The market for crude rules steady, at $2 40@2 45, delivered at Oil City; $2 10@2 15 on the creek. Demand moderate. L.

PETROLEUM MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

Crude has been in better demand and prices have advanced, the market, says the *Shipping List*, closing steady at 11c in bulk. Refined in bond has ruled quiet, but the market was steady until yesterday, when there was less firmness on the para of holders, and the market closed dull at 24½@24¾c for S. W. There was no business transacted on 'Change, yesterday, the board adjourning by unanimous resolution out of respect to the memory of Mr. A. M. Cozzens, late President of the Board, whose death was announced at the opening of 'Change. The sales are 5,900 barrels crude in bulk, spot and balance of the month, at 10¾@11c, and 250 do, in shipping order, 16½c, S O, 20 days; 1,400 barrels S W, in bond, 24¾@25c; 800 do in bulk, February delivery, on private terms; 60 do S W free, 42c. 300 do Naptha, 19c; 250 do residuum, $3 25, delived, and 200 do in bulk 5 cents ℔ gallon.

Received since January 1st—

1868 bbls.70,096 | 1867 bbls.85,279

Export since Janury 1st—

	1868. Galls.	1867. Galls.
From New York	4,061 627	2,413,272
Other Ports	2,153,837	2,221,886
Total	6,165,864	3,635,158
Same time 1866		6,313,557
1865		1,119,586

BOSTON.

The market for petroleum continues dull and depressed, says the *Bulletin*, though at present low prices both manufacturers and dealers are rather indifferent to sales. There is very little doing in the export trade, as orders in the hands of shippers are mostly limited at rates below the views of sellers. But if gold continues to advance, there will soon be a fair shipping margin and many of these will be filled.

Both free and bonded refined oil are firmly held at quoted rates, and any change is likely to be for the better, as current prices are rather below the cost of production, with the crude article tending up. The demand for home consumption is moderate, with the supply of daylight increasing, and trade is not expected to be active till the spring shipments set in.

We quote crude petroleum firm at 12@13c ℔ gallon in bulk, and nominally 17@18c in barrels. Refined oil in bond is quite but firm, with sales at 22@25c ℔ gallon for Western; 26@28c for Boston and 38c in cans and cases for shipment to Southern latitudes. Free do is in moderate demand at 41@43c ℔ gallon for Western; 44@45c for Boston, and 48 for Downer's Kerosene. Naptha is in fair demand, with sales at a range of 17@32c ℔ gallon as to gravity. Residum is nominal at $3 75@4 25 ℔ per barrel.

Petroleum at Philadelphia.

The inactive condition of the trade still continues, and prices, says the *Commercial List* of Saturday, have gradually and steadily tended downward, until they have reached a point fully ½ cent less than one week ago. The demand for shipment has been extremely light, owing to the scarcity of vessels, high rates of freight, the impediments to navigation, and unfavorable tenor of the foreign advices. Sales of 1,800 bbls crude on secret terms; 500 bbls do at 15½c; 6,000 bbls refined, in bond, S. W. on the spot, at 21½, 22½, 22¼@22c—closing at the latter figure to-day, and some for all the month delivery at 22½@22¾c, b. o; 1,200 bbls P. W. at 22½c, S. O., 10 days; 1,500 bbls P. L. S. to W. at 21c; 500 bbls S. W. for March at 23½c, b. o; 500 bbls S. W. for April at 23¾c; a call for 500 bbls S. W. for July at 24c and $1 down. We quote for March at 22½@23c; April at 23½c; May at 24c; June at 24½c; and July at 25c, b. o. Free oil ranges from 38 to 42 cents. Residuum is nominal at $3 25@3 27½. Benzine is held at 15c. Lubricating oils are in fair request at 25@50c for Longmoor; 25@35c for Volcanic; 46@60c for American Natural; and 30@32c for Mount Farm. A contract for 4,000 bbls Naptha is reported to have been made deliverable last half of the year, s. o., on secret terms.

The receipts for the week were 5,800 bbls crude, and 7,300 bbls refined. The exports were 29,309 gallons crude, 676,529 gallons refined, and 42,570 gallons Benzine. Total 748,898 gallons. Total export since Jan. 1st, 1868, 2,605,129 gallons, against 1,304,969 gallons same time last year.

Hat Sale.

The following were the prices obtained at James H. Prentice's trade sale of hats, in Brooklyn, on Friday last, 200 cases being sold: Wool hats, men's plain, $5 00 to $9 25; men's fancy, $9 75 to $12 25; youth's fancy, $6 50 to $8 00; children's plain, $4 25 to $6 87. Cassimere, men's plain, $11 50 to $21 75; men's fancy, $18 00 to $25 00. Black, fawn, silver and pearl beaver, and belly nutria, $19 00 to $31 50. Black, brown and other brush, $37 00 to $40 00.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PIG IRON AND BLOOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, February 15, 1868.

The market for crude irons continues moderataly active, more particularly as regards forge descriptions. There is, however, but little disposition to purchase for speculation. The sales of the week indicate a fair trade demand. In our last we referred to negotiations being under way for some round lots. The details up to this time have not reached the proper shape for publication.

Foundry irons were in a manner neglected; prices have undergone no quotable change.

The sales of the various kinds were bituminous coal smelted from L. S. ore, 1,187 tons; anthracite 1,255 tons; charcoal 10 tons—total, 2,452 tons, against 5,191 tons for the week ending January 31, being a falling off amounting to 2,739 tons.

We are quoted the following transactions:

Bituminous Coal Smelted from Lake Superior Ore.

50 tons	Neutral	$35 00—6 mos
60 "	Mahoning Valley Forge	36 50—4 mos
100 "	" " "	37 00—4 mos
47 "	" Foundry	42 00—4 mos
30 "	" "	44 00—4 mos
500 "	Grey Forge	37 00—6 mos
300 "	Medium "	36 00—6 mos
100 "	" "	36 00—5 mos

Anthracite.

10 tons	No. 1 Foundry	$45 00—4 mos
20 "	No. 2 "	42 50—4 mos
30 "	No. 2 "	40 50—4 mos
40 "	Grey Forge, favorite brand	40 00—60 dys
130 "	Grey Neutral Forge	37 90— cash
25 "	No. 1 Foundry	45 00—4 mos
1,000 "	Grey Forge	p'v'te terms

Charcoal.

10 tons Cold Blast $47 00—4 mos

Blooms.

30 tons Juniata $90 00— cash

IRON AND NAILS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

IRON.

Common Bar sizes	3¾@ 4¼
Horse Shoe	5¾
Heavy Band	4 @ 5¼
Hoop and Light Band	5 @ 9½
Round and Square	3¾@ 7¼
Oval	4¼@ 4¾
Half Oval and Half Round	4¼@ 5¼
Boiler Iron	5¾@ 8¼
Tank Iron	5

All sheets over 28 in. wide, ½c ℔ lb extra.

Flat Rails, punched and countersunk	4¼@ 4¾
T. Rail, 12, 16, 20 and 25 lbs to the yard	4¼@ 4¾
Nail Rods	8¾@10½
Coal Screen Iron	5¼@ 6¾

		Amer'n.	Charc'l	Juniata.
Sheet Iron,	10 to 17	5¼	6¾	9
" "	18 to 24	5½	7¼	9½
" "	25 to 26	6	7½	9¾
" "	27	6¼	7¾	10

All sheets over 28 in. wide, ¼c ℔ lb extra.

NAILS.

10d to 60d Nails, Fencing and Brads	$5 25	2d	7 50
8d and 9d	5 50	3d fine	7 50
6d and 7d	5 75	2d fine	8 50
4d and 5d	6 00	¾ in lining	9 00
3d	6 50	Clinch	6 75
		Cut Spikes	5 50

Casing Nails—6d, $6 25; 8d, $6 00; 10d, $5 75; 12d, $5 75; 16d, $5 75.

Finishing Nails—6d, $6 75; 8d, $6 50; 10d, $6 25; 12d, $6 25; 16d, $6 25.

Barrel Nails—⅞ inch, $8 00; 1 inch, $7 25; 1⅛ inch, $6 50; 1¼ inch, $6 50; 1½ inch, $6 00.

Tobacco Nails—6d, $6 00; 8d, $5 75; 10d, $5 50.

The above are the card rates for iron and nails in small lots, but in large lots iron can be purchased at 3⅜c, net cash, for common bar size, and nails at $5 00 for 10d to 60d, net cash; $5 25 for 8d to 9d; viz at 25c ℔ keg less than the card rate, net cash.

HEAVY HARDWARE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

The following are the manufacturers' card prices of Lewis, Oliver & Phillips, who have reduced their rates very materially:

	Discount off Standard List.
Carriage bolts, full square necked, forged nuts	50 and 10 and 5 net
Tire bolts	50 and 10 and 5 net
Plow bolts	10 and 5 net
Machine and square head bolts	30 and 5 net
Coach and lag screws, by the 100	30 and 5 net
Square and hexagon nuts	3½ cts ℔ lb off net
Washers	3½ cts ℔ lb off net
Harrow teeth, in lots of 1 ton or more	1 in. diam. 5¼c ℔ lb net ¾ and ⅞ in. diam 5¾c ℔ lb net
Skein bolts, in bulk, in lots of 5 kegs or more	⅝ diam. 9½c ℔ lb net 9-16 diam. 10½c ℔ lb net ½ diam. 11½c ℔ lb net
Coach and lag screws, in bulk, in lots of 5 kegs or more	1c ℔ lb over above
Screw hook & eye hinges	¾ to 1 in diam 12½c ℔ lb net ⅝ in diam 13½c ℔ lb net ½ in diam 15½c ℔ lb net
Screw and strap hinges lots of 100 pr or more	8, 10 & 12 in long, 10c ℔ lb net 14 to 36 in long 8½c ℔ lb net
Wagon box strap bolts, in lots of 100 sets or more	86c net, per set 8 bolts
Duck nest tuyere irons	$14 00 per doz net
Cast iron washers	4½c ℔ lb net
Thimble skeins	Dis. off list, net

Bridge bolts at a small advance over price of bar iron.

WROUGHT IRON WELDED TUBES.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

The following is the Manufacturers' Price List, subject to the customary discount:

Size. Inside Diam.	Price. Per Ft.	Size. Inside Diam.	Price, Galv., Per Ft.
⅛ inch gas pipe	7	⅛ inch gas pipe	16
¼ do	8	¼ do	18
⅜ do	10	⅜ do	24
½ do	12	1 do	34
¾ do	15	1¼ do	44
1 do	20	1½ do	56
1¼ do	30	2 do	75
1½ do	36	2½ do	1 20
2 do	50	3 do	1 65
2½ do	80	3½ do	2 10
3 do	1 30	4 do	2 50
3½ do	1 60	4½ do	3 20
4 do	2 10		
4½ do	2 40		
5 do	2 80		
6 do	4 00		
7 do	5 50		
8 do	7 00		

STEEL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

The following are the current prices:

Best quality refined tool steel	19c
Machinery steel	15c
Cast spring steel	15c
German spring steel	15c
Blister steel	11½@17c
Cast plow steel	15c
German plow steel	13c

PRICE LIST OF TOOLS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

The following is the Card Price List of Tools, &c: One set complete 2½ inch joint and slab jar, $300. One set complete 2¼ inch joint and link jar, $310. One set complete 2 inch joint and link jar, $300. Improved grabs, $25@30; Valve Sockets, $30; Hand wheel shaft and flanges, $36 00; Pittman straps, $16 00; Samson post iron, $15.

IRON.

IRONTON, OHIO.

Pig iron continues very dull. We quote as follows:

Mill, hot blast	$39 00@41 00
Foundry, hot blast	41 00@45 00
Etna, cold-blast, No. 1 Carwheel	55 00 cash.
Hecla, cold-blast, No. 1 Carwheel	60 00 cash.

Receipts during the week, 700 tons; shipments none.

Bar iron is unchanged with no demand. We quote common bar at 3¾@4c for card rates. Both the mills will probably start early next week. Nails are extremely dull at $5 25 for rates.

The Belfont Works started up on Monday again. Mr. I. M. Norton, of Wheeling, has taken the management of these works. The Belfont and Monitor Furnaces are being pushed to completion as rapidly as the weather will permit. We learn that another machine shop is to be started on a small scale, intended as a repair shop, principally. The Olive Works are busy. The stove foundry has been interrupted by cold weather.—*Journal.*

PORTSMOUTH, OHIO.

Since our last, says the Portsmouth *Republican*, we have to record a little firmer market, with no sales transpiring above last quotations. One hundred tons were sold to city mills for a price not known—and one hundred tons imported from Mahoning valley for new rolling mill. The receipts by rail are 530 tons. Only 200 tons hauled away for shipment, but the lot was not sent away, on account of floating ice. Both mills are running.

We see quite a lot of railroad iron at our wharf for Kentucky improvement railroad. Our prices here for pig may be quoted at about the same prices as quoted in the Ironton market.

BOSTON.

The *Bulletin* says, there is rather a better feeling in pig iron, and, at present gold rates, choice brands of the foreign article are held for a little advance. The consumptive demand is moderate, but some large buyers are now making contracts ahead for domestic pig, at rather low prices. Pennsylvania makers, in taking orders, are generally ready to discount the repeal of the excise tax, and are making preparations for a greatly increased production during the present year. The stocks on hand are light, and lots for present use command quite full prices.

Manufactured iron is quiet and unchanged. Foreign bar and sheet, as well as some kinds of fine hardware, are more firmly held. But dealers are not buying much, and prefer awaiting the action of Congress in relation to the new tax bill.

Scotch Pig is firm, with sales of No. 1, in small lots from yard, at $41 00@44 00 ℔ ton for the various brands. American is quiet and unchanged with sales of retail lots at $40 00@45 00 ℔ ton, for the different numbers. Charcoal Pig is selling at $45 00@60 00 ℔ ton, as to brand. Bar iron is firm and unchanged, with sales of English and American, from store, at $85 00@90 00 ℔ ton for common, and $95 00@100 for refined. Railroad iron is quiet at $52 00 ℔ ton, gold, for English, and $79 00@80 00 ℔ ton, currency, for American. Cast Steel is selling at 19@24c ℔ lb for English, and 21@24c for American. Anchors are selling at 8¾@9c ℔ lb; Chain Cables, 7⅝@8c (2 inches thick) 8¾@9c ℔ lb; Coil Chains, (¼@1⅛ inches thick) 12½@13c ℔ lb. Boiler Plates are selling at 7½c for flanges, 5¾c for No. 1, and 5¼c ℔ lb for common and tank. Russia Sheet is selling in lots at 10½@11c, gold, and 16@16½c currency, including some 500 packs at the outside rate. English and American do are selling at 6½@7½c ℔ lb. Nails are steady, and selling at 5¼@5½c ℔ lb for assorted sizes. Old iron is firmer, at $1 37½@1 60 ℔ 100 lbs for cast, and $1 67½@2 00 for scrap.

NEW YORK.

From the *Iron Age* we learn that there has been a better feeling in the metal market. We quote:

Ingot Copper—Is now 23 to 23½c, with large sales.

Pig Iron—A fair business has been done in American, and prices are: For No. 1 extra, $34 to $36; No. 2 extra, $33 to $35; No. 2, $30 to $33. In Scotch there is but little doing, and prices are, from yard, Coltness, $42; Gartsherrie, $41; Glengarnock, $39 to $40; Eglington, $38.

Charcoal Pig Iron—Nos. 1 and 2, $45 to $50; Nos. 3 and 4, $50 to $55.

Bar Iron—Quiet.

Rails—Are firm, with a fair demand.

Scrap Iron—Quiet at $40 to $42½.

Old Rails—Quiet at $43.

Lead—In fair demand, at 6.15 to 7⅛c, gold, for invoice lots.

Speiter—Large sales have been made, and the price is now 6⅜c, gold, for whole lots, with good demand.

Tin—In moderate demand, at 24¼ to 24½c for Straits; 23¼ to 23¾c for English, gold, for whole lots.

Antimony—Quiet at 15⅝ to 16c.

Quicksilver—80 to 90c.

Bismuth—$6 to $6 75.

FOREIGN IRON MARKETS.

The English iron markets are reported as very dull, there being but few orders received and many of the mills are idle and others only partially running. From North's Weekly Metal Report, London, January 24th, we learn that business in metals is confined to actual requirements for home consumption and exports. Speculation is quite dormant. Prices, with few exceptions, are unchanged. We quote:

Iron—Welsh bars are in moderate demand; prices irregular. A few more orders have been given out for Staffordshire descriptions. Scotch pig iron, after declining to 51s 3d, has again recovered to 51s 9d. cash.

Copper—A better feeling has come over the market, brought about by an advance in Chile bars, of which there are now buyers at £69, while holders ask £70. Refined Ingots, £73 10s; English manufactured has been done at £79.

Tin—Straits is in moderate demand: £87 cash is the nearest price: Banca, nominally, £91 to £91 10s; Banca in Holland remains dull at 52½ fl. English tin is offered under official rates.

Tin-Plates—Prices seem to have touched their lowest; orders for coke seem to come in more freely, and charcoal are also decidedly stronger.

Lead is steady at £19 for English pig; LB, £19 5s; WB, £21 5s.

Spelter continues dull, with sellers at £20 15s; V and S, £19 15s; Belgian, £19 10s.

GLASGOW, January 25th.—The pig iron market opened rather firm on Monday and 51s 9d to 51s 10½d one month and 51s 9d cash was paid, closing sellers at the latter figure. No. 1 Gartsherrie, 57s; No. 1 Coltness, 57s; No. 1, g. m. b., 52s 3d; No. 3, g. m. b., 51s. On Tuesday the market was firm also, and several lots changed hands at 51s 9d cash, 51s 10d one month fixed. At the close there were buyers at 51s 9d one month, and sellers cash. On Wednesday the pig iron market was very active, and a large business was done at 51s 9d to 51s 10½d one month, closing buyers 51s 10d cash. Friday's report says: Market firm; No. 1, 53s to 53s 6d; Warrants, 52s to 52s 1½d; No. 3, 51s to 51s 6d. The Govan Furnaces have been extinguished. Malleable iron makers talk of reducing wages—the Monkland Company having already given notice to do so. First class brands are quoted 7/; second class, of 15s to 6/ 17s 6d. Ship iron in fair demand.

Iron at Cincinnati.

There has been a dull market for pig iron all the week and prices are generally lower, closing with but a moderate demand at the decline. Hot blast charcoal is now quoted at $46 00 ℔ ton; No. 2 at $42 00 @43 00, and mill iron $40 00. Stone coal iron is held at $40 00@45 00, as to quality. Missouri iron is selling at $45 00@50 00 ℔ ton, and Tennessee $45 00@50 00 for hot and cold blast. Cold blast charcoal iron is quoted at $60 00, and Hecla $63 00. Blooms are selling at $100@105 ℔ ton, but the transactions are light. Scrap iron is quoted at 1¾c ℔ lb for wrought, and 1@1½c for cast. Bar iron is dull at 4@5½c ℔ lb for common and charcoal. Horse shoes are selling at 7½c, and mule shoes at 8¼c ℔ lb.

NAILS—The demand has been light since our last, and with a full stock the market has ruled dull, but we note no change in rates; concessions would be made to purchasers.—*Enquirer.*

Seed at Cincinnati.

The demand for cloverseed has improved and prices advanced to 13½c ℔ lb, and ½c more is now asked. The stock is not large. Timothy remains dull and quoted at $2 50@2 60 ℔ bushel, the outside the jobbing figure. The receipts of flax are small. The dealers are paying $2 10@2 20 ℔ bushel.

PITTSBURGH WOOL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, WEDNESDAY EVENING, February 12, 1868.

The improved feeling in the wool market apparent after the opening of the New Year seemed to be only temporary, as it is now about as dull as at any time for months past. The stocks of wool on hand in the Eastern markets are not large, and this prevents prices from falling, which, on the other hand, the depressed state of manufactures prevents them from buying only in a small way. We hear of some parties buying for manufacturers account in Washington and Beaver counties, at a range of 45 to 50 cents for fine wools.

Our quotations are nominal, ranging from 35 to 45 cents, according to quality.

NEW YORK.

The *Economist* says the market is entirely without tone, it has neither life nor activity; to say it is dull and depressed conveys no idea of its true character, and was it not for the ease in the money market the price would be lower than it has ever been since 1861. There is no sale for woolens—this market has not been so depressed for years, and the prospect for fine woolens is so very poor that our manufacturers dare not pay the price asked for fine wools and make them into cloth.

The sales for the week include 200,000 lbs fleece, ranging from 28@32c for low unwashed; 42@47½c for No. 1 and No 2, and good lots sold at 50c; 600,000 lbs California, some AP at 27¼c, low at 22@25c, and some fine northern California brought 32½c; 450 bales pulled wools, regular ex. sold for 45@47c; do super, 44c; Rochester ex, 52½c; do super. 45c; do No. 1 33½c; 30,000 lbs tubbed on private terms; 100,000 lbs Texas, 27@28c; 10,000 lbs black on private terms; a small lot of Saxony on private terms; 5,000 lbs Mexican on private terms; 1,000 lbs Noils on private terms; 1,000 bales Cape, 29c, gold.

BOSTON.

The wool market continues dull, and prices for all but the most desirable grades rule in favor of buyers. The wants of consumers are very limited for the season, and supplied only from hand to mouth. The goods market remains without animation; the prospects of the trade are dubious, and prices unsatisfactory. Under these circumstances, the production of Spring fabrics is likely to be unusually small; manufacturers are still further curtailing their operations, while awaiting the action of Congress upon the tax question, and buying no more staple than wanted for immediate use.

This condition of things has rather impaired confidence in fine clothing wool, which was expected to go off with a rush during the month of February, and, in anticipation of a short supply, has to a great extent been held above the market. It is now offering quite freely at the prices current last December, in some cases a shade lower, and most holders are anxious to realize. Except for very choice lots of double extra and picklock, wanted for special purposes, there is more confidence now in the low and medium grades. The latter are still called for, and command relative good prices, notwithstanding they are rather out of season.

Fine pulled wools are still very dull and relatively depressed, while there is a continual fair demand for the lower grades at about former prices. Combing wools are scarce and generally held higher, with a good demand, which has to be met principally with the native product, in the absence of Canada. The receipts of all grades are light; but there is understood to be a considerable balance of the clip still remaining in the hands of growers.

Sales of domestic for the week have been moderate and foot up about 675,000 lbs, at a range of 26@57½c for fleece and 36½@47½c for the various grades of pulled. Included are 12,000 lbs extra and above Ohio fleece 57½c; 3,000 lbs double extra do 54c; 2,000 lbs medium do 45c; 1,500 lbs coarse do 41c; 10@20,000 lbs medium do 45c; 10,000 lbs medium to fine do 46½c; 10,000 lbs medium do 46c; 2,000 lbs No. 1 do 29c; 13,000 lbs fine do 51c; 4,600 lbs fine Michigan, 41c; 3,000 lbs coarse do 40c; 10,000 lbs fine do 45c; 1,800 lbs extra Michigan, 44@45c; 2,000 lbs medium, Wisconsin 43c; 3,500 lbs fine do 40c; 40,000 lbs all grades do 42c; 3,000 lbs coarse do 33c; 4,000 lbs low New York State 38c; 2,600 fine do 43c; 4,200 lbs medium Illinois 41c; 3,000 lbs Nos. 1 and 2 Iowa 40c; 3,000 lbs extra Vermont 42c; 1,600 lbs scoured 57½c; 2,000 lbs coarse do 53c; 3,000 lbs fine do 85c; 5,000 lbs low do 55c; 1,500 lbs Southern do 52c; 1,800 lbs fine Western 43c; 1,500 lbs coarse unwashed do 28c; 1,500 lbs sorts 35c; 3,000 lbs low delaine 45c; 3,000 lbs noils 37½c; 2,500 lbs mixed unwashed 33½c; 1,700 lbs No. 1 Black 25@30c; 2,200 lbs Pedler's wool 20c; 5,000 lbs delaine selections 47½c.

In pulled wool, sales 4,000 lbs extra, 40c; 3,000 lbs do, 40½c; 4,000 lbs extra Cape do, 56c; 6,000 lbs Eastern super, 25c; 1,600 lbs do, 43½c; 1,100 lbs do, 45c; 1,600 lbs low do. 38c; 1,650 lbs super 37½c; 1,900 lbs Western do, 32@36c; 5,500 lbs E. super, 44c; 2,400 lbs extra, 42½c; 4,000 lbs Western extra, 41c; 3,000 lbs do 36½c; 3,600 lbs long extra, 44c. In combing wool sales 1,600 lbs domestic, 52c; 8,000 lbs Canada, 65c; some small lots do, 67½c; 3,600 lbs Western, 52c, and a lot of Kentucky unwashed, 47½c. Good lots of native combing are now held at 55c and cannot be bought for less.—*Bulletin.*

MANILLA, HEMP, AND TARRED CORDAGE, OAKUM, &c.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 8, 1868.

The following are the card prices:

Manilla cordage	21½
Do do 12 thread	22
Do do 6 and 9 thread	22½
Do do tarred	21
Do hawser laid oil well rope	21½
Do lath twine, tarred	21
Do hay rope	22
American hackled hemp tarred cordage	21
Do hemp white rope	23@25
Sisal cordage	18
Do cordage, 6 and 9 thread	19
Do stave and leather twine	22
Do tarred lath twine	21
Jute rope, 6 and 9 thread	15
American hemp sash and bell cord	33@40
Do hemp tarred lath twine	20
Do hemp packing	20@28
Sunn hemp, packing	18
Houseline, marline, etc	28
Spun yarn	18
Cotton rope	50@70
Oakum, American and Sunn	11@12
Caulking cotton	20@23
Bed cords, American Hemp and Sisal ℔ doz	$2 25@4 00
Twines, hemp	50@75
Do cotton	60@75
Do jute	20@35

TWINES, FLAX, ETC.

No. 2, Flax Twine ℔ lb	33
No. 3, do	35
No. 4, do	38
No. 5, do	45
No. 6, do	50
No. 7, do	53
No. 8, do	55
No. 10, do	65
Wrapping twine	25
Colored broom-sewing twine	45 to 50
Wool twine	25 to 30
Broom-tying twine	35
Carpet chain, plain	25
Do chain colored	30

LUMBER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, Feb. 12, 1868.

We quote yard prices as follows:

UNPLANED LUMBER.

Clear, ℔ M	$65 00
First Common	55 00
Second Common	30 00
Third Common	25 00
Shooting	18 00
Hemlock Joists and Scantling	18 00

PLANED LUMBER.

First common, ℔ M	60 00
Clear	70 00
Flooring Boards	66 00
Partition Boards	40 00
Shelving on both sides	38 00
Shelving on one side	34 00
Plow and drop weatherboarding	36 00
Rabbited weatherboarding	36 00
Half inch patent planed	25 00
Half inch patent unplaned	20 00
Twelve inch vertical, with strips	34 00
Oak and Yellow Pine flooring boards	48 00

SHINGLES AND LATH.

No. 1, 18-inch, sawed	8 00
No. 2, 18-inch, sawed	6 50
No. 1, 18-inch, shaved	
No. 1, 16-inch, sawed	
Lath	4 50

BOOT AND SHOE MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

We give the wholesale prices current, which will on comparison with the quotations given in Chicago, Cincinnati and other Western markets, be found considerably lower, showing the advantage of purchasing here. The prices are as follows:

Men's thick boots	$2 75@4 50
Men's pegged calf boots	3 00@5 00
Men's kip boots	3 00@4 00
Men's custom kip boots	4 00@5 00
Men's split kip boots	3 00@3 75
Men's wax brogans	1 50@2 25
Men's split brogans	1 25@1 75
Men's grain boots	3 00@3 00
Boy's thick boots	2 00@3 00
Boy's kip boots	2 00@3 00
Youth's kip boots	1 75@2 25
Youth's thick boots	1 25@2 25
Women's buff balmorals	1 25@2 00
Women's calf balmorals	1 87@2 25
Women's goat balmorals	1 50@2 25
Misses' goat balmorals	1 25@1 75
Misses' calf balmorals	1 25@1 87
Misses' buff balmorals	87@1 50
Children's buff and calf balmorals	55@1 12
Ladies' lasting Congress gaiters	1 00@3 00
Ladies' lasting balmorals	1 25@3 00
Ladies' goat, sewed	1 50@3 00
Ladies' glove kid, sewed	2 25@4 50
Women's rubber overshoes	90@3 90
Men's rubber overshoes	1 12@1 25

FRUIT MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

The following are the current quotations:

New Layer Raisins, ℔ box	$4 50 to 4 75	Pears, 2 lb cans	$3 50 to 4 00
New Figs, ℔ lb	23@25c	Peaches, 3 lb cans ℔ doz	$4 00@4 25
Havana Oranges ℔ bbl	$14 00	Peaches, 2 lb cans ℔ doz	$2 75@3 00
Messina Oranges	$5 to 5 50	Blackberries, 2 lb cans ℔ doz	$3 75 to 4 00
Malaga Lemons	$4 50@5 00	Cherries, 2 lb cans, ℔ doz	$4 to 4 25
Bordeaux Almonds, ℔ lb	45c	Green Apples, ℔ bbl	$2 00 to 3 50
Ivica Almonds, ℔ lb	35c	Peas, 2 lb cans	$3 00
Sicily Almonds, ℔ lb	28@30c	Huckleberries, 2 lb cans ℔ doz	$3 75@4 00
French Walnuts, ℔ lb	15 to 16c	Corn (Winslow's) 2 lb cans ℔ doz	$3 75
Tomatoes, 2 lb c	$2 35 to 2 50	Plums (Damson) 2 lb cans ℔ doz	$4 00@4 50
Cocoa Nuts ℔ 100	$7 50@8 50	Tomatoes 3 lb cans ℔ doz	$2 75@3 00
Filberts, ℔ lb	16 to 18c	Lima Beans, 2½ lb cans ℔ doz	$4 50
Naples Walnuts, ℔ lb	23@25c	Pickles, ℔ 100 by the bbl	90c@$1 15
Brazil Nuts, ℔ lb	16 to 18c	Pickles, ℔ quart jars	$4 00@4 25
Pecans, ℔ lb	16 to 20c	Pickles, ℔ half gallon jars	$6 00@6 50
No. 1 Herring, ℔ box	40 to 50c		
Scaled Herring ℔ box	60 to 80c		
Strawberries 2 lb cans	$4@4 50		
Pine Apples, 2 lb cans ℔ doz	$4 75		

GLASS MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

We quote sales of small lots at 40 per cent. off list. By car loads of 300 boxes several sales at from 50 to 55 per cent.

We quote as follows, which is the uniform standard price throughout the United State, viz:

	2d quality.	1st quality.
6 by 8 to 8 by 10	$5 50	$6 50
8 by 11 to 10 by 15	6 00	7 00
11 by 14 to 12 by 18		8 00
13 by 18 to 16 by 24		8 50
18 by 22 to 18 by 30		10 50
20 by 30 to 24 by 30		12 00
24 by 30 to 24 by 36		13 00
25 by 36 to 30 by 44		15 00
30 by 45 to 32 by 45		18 00

DOUBLE THICK CHARGED BY DOUBLE ABOVE RATES.

All fractions of inches shall be counted as full inches, and all sizes not specified in the classification shall be charged according to bracket, indicated by greatest length or breadth.

The best city brands of window glass can be purchased at a discount of 25 to 45 per cent. off the above prices for cash, as to quantity wanted.

PITTSBURGH SHEETING MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, February 15, 1868.

BUSINESS.—The market during the week was steady with a fair trade demand. The sales were to a fair extent. In regard to prices the only changes will be found below:

SHEETINGS.

Penn Mill	4-4 heavy Sheeting	15c
Ninatook	" "	14c
Pitts. Family	" medium "	14c
Juniata B	" fine "	13c

SEAMLESS GRAIN BAGS.

Allegheny seamless	2 bushel	38c
Penn mill "	2 "	45c
" "	2½ "	48c
" "	3 "	55c

CARPET CHAIN.

Penn mill	5 cord long reel (colored)	41c
"	5 cord long reel (white)	36c
"	fine cotton twine	38c

Brown sheeting advanced ½c ℔ yd this week, and firm at above quotations. Mills here sold up close and no stocks.

BROOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

The demand is fair. We quote the manufacturers prices as follows:

Shaker No. 1 per doze	$4 00
" " 2 " "	2 50
Hurl " 1 " "	4 50
" " 2 " "	4 00
Braid " 1 " "	4 00
" " 2 " "	3 50
Round No. 1 per doz	3 50
" " 2 "	3 00
Western Common	2 00
Broom Corn, prime, per ton	250 00
Broom Corn, common, per ton	140@200
Broom handles, per 1000	20@30
Swallow Brooms, per dozen	5 00

ALE MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

X Ale ℔ bbl	$10 00 ℔ hf bbl	$5 00
X X Ale ℔ "	11 00 ℔ "	5 50
India ℔ "	12 00 ℔ "	6 00
Porter ℔ "	10 00 ℔ "	5 00

Four dollars, in addition to the above price, will be charged for barrels, and three dollars for half barrels, which will be allowed on their return.

COPPER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

Prices are as follows:

Braziers' Coppers 30x60 inches	38c
Bolt Coppers	36c
Sheathing, 14x48 inches	33c
Copper Bottoms, in large quantities, with 5 ℔ cent. off	4c

PENNSLYVANIA CENTRAL STOCK YARDS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 13, 1868.

CATTLE—The market exhibited more activity than for some weeks past, the sales being larger at a slight advance on last week's figures. Eastern buyers were more plenty. A lot of 15 head of very choice cattle, raised in Mahoning county, Ohio, was disposed of at $10 50 ℔ cwt. and a premium of $20 00 added. They will be forwarded to New Jersey at once. The advance during the week on good stock was 75c ℔ cwt. The operations for the past three weeks were as follows:

January 30	262	$4 50@8 25
February 6	122	4 75@8 00
February 13	295	3 75@8 75

The sales of cattle exceeds the previous week 173 head.

SHEEP—The market was firm with a good demand for good fat mutton, at an advance over last week's prices. The highest price paid was $8 50 ℔ cwt. The operations for the past three weeks were:

January 30	4 707	$3 75@5 62
February 6	7,452	3 35@6 25
February 13	4,680	3 75@6 25

The above shows a falling off in sales amounting to 2,772.

HOGS—The market was steady with a good demand, principally for shipment east. Notwithstanding the packing season is over, a further advance was established. The operations for the past three weeks were as follows:

January 30	5,461	$6 00@8 00
February 6	3,785	6 50@9 20
February 13	4,546	7 25@9 90

The above shows an increase in sales amounting to 761 head.

TRANSACTIONS IN CATTLE PER CWT.

Seller.	Purchaser.	No.	Weight.	Price
Hedges T.	Myers & N.	17	18,075	$4 75
Hedges T.	J Ault	6	9,000	7 50
Hedges T.	J Ault	2	2,675	7 00
Hedges T.	P Klemens	17	20,075	7 50
Hedges T.	P Klemens	21	18,400	5 50
Hedges T.	P Klemens	2	1,90	4 50
Hedges T.	Pidcock & Co.	16	15,375	6 00
Hedges T.	Pidcock & Co.	3	3,750	5 00
Hedges T.	Pidcock & Co.	4	3,675	6 25
Hedges T.	J Ross, bulls	2	2,125	5 00
W Coulter	Greenwalt & Co	4	3,165	4 00
W Coulter	Greenwalt & Co	1	1,050	7 75
W Coulter	G & Co, bulls	2	1,850	3 75
J Ault	Stevens	18	16,400	8 00
Glass, L & Co	J Stell	16	22,950	7 65
Glass, L & Co	J Stell	2	2,950	8 75
P Klemens	W Hines	2	1,925	4 50
W H Rough	Cassidy & Co	45	52,225	7 75
J Rowing	J Vanetta	19	21,300	7 50
J Vatter	P Klemens, ox	2	2,475	6 00
E Winger	Smith & H	19	20,025	7 25
Smith & T	J Roth	15	17,900	7 00

TRANSACTIONS IN SHEEP PER CWT. AND HEAD.

Seller.	Purchaser.	No.	Weight.	Price
R S Keyes	M Brant	104	17,050	$5 50
Glass, L & Co	D Crowel	161	13,825	4 15
C Pierce	J Brooner	21	1,900	4 90
Glass, L & Co	White	94	7,850	4 75
E L Kase	H Voorhees	54	5,600	5 40
C Snyder	H Voorhees	171	16,085	5 30
M S Atkinson	E L Kase	179	15,840	5 50
Hedges & T	E L Kase	170	15,900	5 62
C Campbell	C Pierce	149	12,200	6 25
G Fox	C Pierce	74	7,875	6 00
W C Long	C Pierce	144	14,625	6 25
C King	C Pierce	165	15,985	5 60
Glass, L & Co	C Pierce	250	22,350	5 90
J Carnes	C Pierce	176	16,085	6 25
H Martin	C Pierce	170	15,290	6 00
B Westhaffer	C Pierce	162	17,765	6 00
S Sharp	John Lloyd	203	17,068	7 75
A B Evans	John Lloyd	211	17,410	7 80
J Voetter	John Lloyd	15 ex	2,175	8 50
Wm Coulter	J N Pidcock	114	9,400	4 00
Glass L & Co	J N Pidcock	31	3,175	5 37
Hedges & Taylor	J N Pidcock	96	7,975	4 60
M Jones	J N Pidcock	306	30,445	6 00
E Hartman	J N Pidcock	163	13,490	5 50
J Winnings	J N Pidcock	180	16,225	5 50
Glass L & Co	J Raule	167	14,135	4 50
J Stiers	J Raule	85	7,100	3 75
Glass L & Co	J Raule	184	15,439	4 62
H H Brooks	G Holcomb	169	14,325	5 90
H H Brooks	G Holcomb	145	14,600	6 00
James Carnes	G Holcomb	182	17,125	5 80
Hedges & Taylor	G Holcomb	96	8,475	5 15

TRANSACTIONS IN HOGS PER CWT.

Seller.	Purchaser.	No.	Weight.	Price.
Singer & Imhoff	Crouse, E & Co.	43	6,900	$7 60
M S Atkinson	Crouse, E & Co.	8	1,175	7 50
Mairs & McKee	Crouse, E & Co.	87	10,950	7 50
Mairs & B	Crouse, E & Co.	93	11,275	7 25
S Huffman	Crouse, E & Co.	78	23,800	8 60
Scott & Martin	Crouse, E & Co.	125	33,550	8 90
John Heath	Crouse, E & Co.	194	36,250	8 25
R H Deyol	Crouse, E & Co.	80	11,575	7 60
Glass, L & Co	Crouse, E & Co.	196	42,550	8 25
Glass, L & Co	Crouse, E & Co.	45	10,425	8 75
Glass, L & Co	Crouse, E & Co.	101	21,800	7 25
Glass, L & Co	Crouse, E & Co.	128	22,175	7 25
Glass, L & Co	J N Pidcock	284	36,050	7 60
J Browning	J N Pidcock	29	4,600	7 80
E Smith	J N Pidcock	76	12,005	7 00
R R Cook	J N Pidcock	124	24,950	7 90
Hedges & Taylor	J N Pidcock	83	12,225	7 50
Gilchrist & Co	J N Pidcock	42	9,840	6 25
Glass, L & Co	J N Pidcock	165	22,675	8 90
Glass, L & Co	W Hedges & H	57	9,540	8 25
Hedges & T	E Smith	67	20,340	8 87
Hollow & Rock	E Smith	99	18,565	8 00
Scott & Martin	J Roth	144	31,275	8 92
Glass, L & Co	Emrick & Co	46	15,000	8 00
Glass, L & Co	Emrick & Co	61	13,575	8 00
T J Lye	Emrick & Co	114	24,790	8 00
Glass, L & Co	Emrick & Co	72	12,375	8 00
Glass, L & Co	Emrick & Co	41	12,100	8 00
Hedges & T	C Pierce	65	13,375	7 00
J N Pidcock	C Pierce	78	12,360	7 75
C Fox	C Pierce	24	2,900	7 25
A Moore	Gilchrist & Co	100	29,100	8 87
J Moss	Gilchrist & Co	50	8,225	8 90
W H Rugh	Gilchrist & Co	49	9,475	8 60
Wm Coulter	Gilchrist & Co	60	8,750	7 25
Hedges & Taylor	Gilchrist & Co	145	26,965	8 10
Hedges & Taylor	Gilchrist & Co	63	12,475	8 55
Hedges & Taylor	Gilchrist & Co	90	20,900	8 75
Hedges & Taylor	Gilchrist & Co	62	14,375	8 75
Glass, L & Co	Gilchrist & Co	151	34,200	8 90
J N Pidcock	Gilchrist & Co	141	24,053	8 75
Messer, G & Co	Gilchrist & Co	228	59,400	9 00
Glass, L & Co	Gilchrist & Co	105	24,025	8 75
H M Sweyer	Gilchrist & Co	143	31,800	8 30
J N Pidcock	Gilchrist & Co	30	5,845	8 90

ALLEGHENY CATTLE MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, THURSDAY, February 13, 1868.

CATTLE—The market was well supplied with cattle, in fact, the offerings were large; besides several car loads that came in were not opened for fear of breaking down the market. Towards the close buyers were shy and disposed to wait for lower figures. Butchers, having an eye to business, and knowing that the stock on hand was sufficient for all purposes, were not inclined to get up any competition, being satisfied that there was plenty for all. There were a number of good cattle on sale—one lot of 16 head, very choice, was disposed of at $9 75 ℔ hundred, the best prices obtained for some time. The asking rates were a slight advance over last week. The operations for the past three weeks were as follows:

January 30	695	$3 00@9 00
February 6	617	3 00@9 00
February 13	685	4 62@9 12

The increase in sales for the week were 68 head.

SHEEP—The market contained a fair supply. The demand however was not an active one, and prices as compared with last week indicate but little change. We were reported sales of good to prime fat mutton sheep at from $5@6 ℔ 100. One lot of extra sold at $6 50@7. Inferior and common lots were neglected and attracted but little attention.

John Kerwin reports sales of 106 head of sheep in lots at $4 50@5 25 ℔ cwt.

Thomas Bingham sold 68 head extra fat sheep from Mercer county at $6 50@7 ℔ cwt.

Stukely & Bro. sold 98 head at an average of $3 25 ℔ head.

John Beeler reports sales of 98 head of Butler county sheep at $2@4 50 ℔ head.

Gerwig sold 85 head pretty good Ohio sheep at $5 00 ℔ cwt.

Adam Fekert sold 144 head of Washington county sheep in lots at prices ranging from $2 75@2 25 ℔ head.

HOGS—The market was a firm one, but there was a falling off in the demand, owing to the high prices asked. The extreme prices this week were $7 00@10 00 ℔ cwt, pretty steep the latter figure.

The operations for the past three weeks were:

January 30	670	$6 50@8 25
February 6	450	7 50@8 50
February 13	630	7 00@10 00

The week sales show an increase of 80 head.

TRANSACTIONS IN CATTLE PER CWT.

Hedges & Taylor report sales 52 head as follows: 19 head at $5 62@7 00; 18 head $4 75@7 30; 7 head steers at $6 00, and 19 head bulls and rough steers at $4 62 ℔ cwt.

Glass, Lafferty & Co. report sales 71 head, in lots, at $5 50@6 00 for stockers and $6 75@8 00 ℔ cwt for butchers' cattle.

S. Carr reports sales 28 head, as follows: 18 head Kane county, Ohio, cattle, at $5 50@7 25; 10 head Chicago stock, $7 50@8 00 ℔ cwt.

Keefer reports sales 4 head extra cattle on private terms.

Isaac Vannata reports the receipts of 54 head prime Ohio cattle, but he did not put them on the market.

Peter Hartman reports sales 20 head Chicago cattle at $7 25@7 75 ℔ cwt.

James Dolan sold 37 head of good western steers at $5 ℔ cwt.

Greenwold & Kuhn report sales of 60 head of choice cattle at $7@8 50 ℔ cwt.

James McAllister reports the sale of 21 head of mixed Ohio cattle at $5@7 ℔ cwt.

Myers & Needy report sales of 117 head as follows: 36 head of Ohio stock at $6@7 75; 61 head from Chicago at $5 50@8 00, and 20 head stockers at $5 50 ℔ cwt.

L. Rothschild sold 18 head Chicago stock at $6 50@7 50 ℔ cwt.

Kraus & Haas report sales of 61 head of Chicago stock at $6 50@8 75 ℔ cwt.

E. Katz reports sales of 25 head of mixed Southern Ohio stock at $5@7 ℔ cwt.

Hazlewood & Blackstock report sales of 52 head as follows: 17 head Chicago stock at $5 50@9 00; 20 head of Belmont (Ohio) county stock at $7 00@8 25, and 15 head Mahoning county (Ohio) stock at $7 75 ℔ cwt.

Marks & Trouerman report sales of 87 head fair to choice steers at $7 25@9 12 ℔ cwt.

L. Shamburg report sales of 16 head as follows: 16 head of fine Western Virginia steers at $9 75 and 10 head bulls and steers at $4 62 for the former and $7 50 for the latter.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

Cattle—The week just closed was one of activity, and highly favorable to drovers. The receipts have been liberal, and composed of a class of stock much above the average in point of quality, and with cheering advices from the principal Eastern markets, a healthy strong feeling has prevailed throughout. Buyers for New York, Buffalo, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Albany have been in attendance, and under a brisk competition between these, all desirable offerings have been swallowed up at satisfactory prices. The arrivals on Tuesday and Thursday, inclusive, embraced several droves of strictly prime beeves, and holders experienced no difficulty in realizing $7 75@8 25 @ 100 lbs, and in one or two instances even higher figures were obtained. For common and inferior descriptions the market has been less favorable, yet, owing to the active competition, and the fact that the supply of choice grades was inadequate, holders—with a few trifling exceptions—were enabled to close out at a fair margin. The character of the demand has been substantially the same as noted in our last weekly review, viz: for good to choice shipping steers for the eastern markets, and good fair Cows, and light fleshy steers on local account. There has, perhaps, been a trifle more inquiry for stockers, but the demand has been by no means urgent, and with too many of this class offering, sales have been slow and prices have been more than sustained. "Springers" are now beginning to arrive with considerable freedom, but there is as yet no reliable demand for this class of stock: buyers from abroad not yet having entered an appearance. There is a light local inquiry, but sales are too meager to establish reliable quotations. Sales have been reported at a range of $35 00@65 00 for common to good new milch cows. For good first and second-class steers a firm feeling pervades the market at the close, and unless prices in the East should react unfavorably during the coming week, we see no reason to anticipate a depreciation in values here. The supply of choice stock throughout the West is conceded to be remarkably light, and for such, high prices will not continue to prevail.

There was a fair demand to-day both on Eastern account and for local consumption, and by night the pens were all cleared of stock. The following are the

CLOSING PRICES.

Extra Beeves—Fine, fat, well formed, 4 to 6 year old steers, and averaging 1,100 lbs and upwards	$7 75@8 25
Prime Beeves—Good, well fatted, finely-formed steers, averaging from 1,100 to 1,400 lbs. at	7 00@7 50
Fair Grades—Fair steers, in fair flesh, averaging 1,100@2,200 lbs, at	5 75@6 50
Medium Class—Medium steers and good cows, fit for city slaughter and averaging 800@1,000 lbs, at	4 00@5 00
Stock Cattle—Common cattle in decent flesh, averaging 800@1,000 lbs, at	3 75@5 00
Inferior—Light and thin cows and steers	2 50@3 50

Compared with the above, the following, which were the prices current at the corresponding period last year, will be found of interest:

Extra	
Prime	$6 75@7 00
Medium to fair	6 25@6 50
Inferior to common	4 75@6 00
	2 50@4 00

Hogs—The receipts number 16,062 head against 10,348 head the previous week, an increase of 5,714 head. For the same period last year we find the receipts to be 22,810, a falling off this week of 6,748 head. The market opened active and excited on Tuesday, and has maintained these characteristics throughout the entire week. The supply, though much more liberal than that of the previous week, has fallen greatly below the wants of the trade, and, owing to the active competition existing between shippers and packers, values have steadily appreciated until an advance of fully 50@75c has been established on the closing rates of last week. The offerings have been pretty evenly divided between these two classes of buyers, packers securing the choice heavy grades, and shippers contenting themselves with the lighter weights. The market was active and strong on Saturday, and the pens were cleared long before night, at prices fully up to, and, in not a few instances at a material advance on those current yesterday.

The following are the closing prices for the past week, compared with those of corresponding dates of last year:

	Feb. 8, '68.	Feb. 9, '67.
Prime to choice	$7 50@8 00	$6 00@6 50
Fair to good	6 75@7 25	6 75@6 45
Common to medium	6 00@6 50	5 75@6 00

Sheep—There has been a fair demand for this class of stock, both on local and on Eastern account, but the supply was too large, and the result has been that common and medium grades have suffered a decline of 25c from the closing prices of last week. Good and choice qualities have held their own tolerably well. Prices range at $4@5 for good to choice, and $2@3 50 for common to medium.—*Tribune.*

LOUISVILLE.

Cattle—During the past week there has been an advance of 35@50c over the previous week, at the Shelby House, with the demand greater than the supply. Choice heavy shipping cattle 6@7c; extra butcher stuff 6@6½c; good 5@5½c; medium 4@5c; inferior and rough 3@4c. At the close the yards were empty. At the southern stock yards the cattle market during the past week has been more active than for the past three weeks, nothing being left in the pens. Good shipping cattle are in demand at 6½@7c; good butcher stock at from 5½ to 6½c; common and inferior from 5 to 5½c. At the Bourbon House the supply of cattle during the week has been rather light—barely sufficient to meet the demand. The quality of stock offered consisted principally of the lower grades. The market closes firm at an advance of 25 to 50 cents. Sales range at 6½@7½c for fair to choice shipping, 5½@6½c for best quality butcher stuff, 4½@5c for fair, and 3@4c for rough and common.

Hogs—The supply is falling off very fast and prices advancing. Sales now range at 6½@7¼c for the best quality, and 6½@6½c for fair light stock.

New York Cattle Market.

NEW YORK, February 10.—Receipts 4,821 beeves, sheep and lambs 34,458, hogs 5,613.

Beef firm and in moderate demand and supply, and prices slightly higher. Extras 18½@19½c; prime 17½@18c; first quality 16½@17c; fair to good 15½@16½c; ordinary 14½@15½c; inferior 12@13c.

Sheep and lambs tolerably active and a trifle higher. The offerings were light to-day. Sales of extras at 7¾@8¼c; prime 7@7½c; common to good 5@6½c; inferior 5@5½c. One sale of Kentucky at 9@10c.

Hogs active and 1c higher; sales at 8½@9c for common to prime.

Philadelphia Cattle Market.

PHILADELPHIA, February 10.—Cattle active. Beeves ½c higher; extras 10½@11½c; fair 8@10c, and common 6@7c. Sheep higher; sales 6,000 head at 5½@7½c. Hogs in demand at an advance of $1; sales at $12@12 50 ℔ cwt.

LEATHER, HIDES AND OIL.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

We quote as follows the current prices.

LEATHER.

Oak sole, heavy	42@46c	Black bridle ℔ doz.	$55@60
Oak sole, middle and light	41@42c	Fair bridle, ℔ doz	$60@70
Rough oak	37@39c	Saddlers skirting	45@48c
Finished calf	$1 30@1 65	Shoe skirting	44@46c
Waxed upper, ℔ ft	26@28c	Red sole B. A	33@35c
Band leather	45@48c	Red sole Orinoco	31@33c
No. 1 oak harness	46c	No. 1 pad skins, ℔ doz	$7 00@8 00
Extra shaved h'r's	48c		

HIDES.

Green salted	11½@12½c	Green Calf	15c
Green Butchers'	8@9c	Tanners' oil No. 1 ℔ gallon	85@90
Dry Flint	23@25c	Calcutta Slaughter Kip	$2 75
Tallow No. 1	11c		

TIN PLATES, ETC.

OFFICE PITTSBURGH DAILY COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

The following are the correct quotations:

I C 10x14	$14 50
I X 10x14	17 00
I XX 10x14	21 25
I C, 12x12	14 50
I X, 12x12	17 50
I C, 14x20	15 00
I X, 14x20	18 00
I XX, 14x20	22 50
I C, roofing, 14x20	13 75
I X, roofing, 14x20	16 75
Bar Tin, ℔ lb	41c
Pig Tin, ℔ lb	36@38c
Sheet Zinc	14c
Slab Spelter	11c

PATENT COLD ROLLED SHAFTING, &c.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

The following are the card rates of Jones & Laughlin, Manufacturers:

Diameter from 3	to 4	inches inclusive	℔ lb	10 c		
do	2¾	to 2⅞	do	do	do	10½c
do	1⅞	to 2	do	do	do	11 c
do	1 7-16	to 1⅝	do	do	do	11½c
do	1 3-16	to 1⅜	do	do	do	12 c
do	1	to 1⅛	do	do	do	12½c
do	¾	to 29-32	do	do	do	15 c
do	9-16	to 11-16	do	do	do	16 c
do	3-16	to ½	do	do	do	19 c

One cent ℔ lb extra for Pump and Piston Rods.

SOAP AND CANDLES.

OFFICE OF PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, February 15, 1868.

We quote the market moderately active at the following quotations:

Chemical Olive, ℔ lb	10c	Rosin No. 3, ℔ lb	4c
Variegated Toi't "	18c	Castile, ℔ lb	13c
Palm, "	11c	Sawyer's Barber, ℔ doz	84
Detersive, "	12c	Honey, ℔ doz	75c
German, "	13c	Dip and Mould Candles	15c
Opodeldock, "	15c	Star Candles	20 to 25c
Rosin No. 1, "	8c	Crystaline	22c
Rosin No. 2, "	4c		

CRACKER MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 8, 1868.

The following are the card prices:

Boston Crackers	11	Cream Crackers	30
Wine "	12	Graham Wafers	12
Soda "	12	Milk Biscuit	12
Oyster "	10½	Ginger Snaps	17
Water "	10	Pilot Bread	10@11
Butter "	12	Cracker Meal	12
Sugar "	12½	Almond Nuts	20
Graham "	12	Fancy Crackers	20
Dyspepsia "	12	Tea Cakes Assorted	16
Jumbles	20		

TOBACCO MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

The following are the card prices:

Spun Roll	$ 75@ 80	Ladies' Twist	$1 00@1 10
Union Twist	71@ 75	Rough & Ready	90@1 10
Flounders	70@ 75	Scotch Snuff	68@ 75
Tens	65@ 68	Copenh'n Snuff	65@ 75
Navy	64@ 68	Rappee Snuff	68@ 75
Young America	90@1 00	Cut and Dry	20@ 28
Diamond Twist	90@1 00		

WRAPPING PAPER AND RAG MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, Feb. 15, 1868.

There is a good demand for Wrapping. The Paper, quotations are as follows:

Cr. ℔ bdl	50c
Md. ℔ bdl	75c
D. C. ℔ bdl	$1 00

Rags in good demand at from 4½@5c, as to quality.

Provisions at Chicago.

From the provision circular of Henry Milward & Co., Chicago, we learn the market has had a continued and increased firmness during the past week. The returns from our packers come in but slowly, and it will probably be a fortnight before we shall be able to make our report to our correspondents. Some few packers are still at work on both live and dressed hogs, but the packing will not be materially increased. The receipts of hogs for the week sum up as follows: Live, 14,951; dressed, 21,808; total, 36,765; and the shipments, live, 7,851; dressed, 12,129; total, 19,980; leaving for packers, city use, and number left over in the pens, 16,725 head. For the corresponding period in 1867 the receipts were: Live, 22,477; dressed, 17,775; total, 41,252; and the shipments, live, 6,342; dressed 10,249; total 16,591; leaving for packers, city use, &c., 23,061 head.

The packing to the present time approximates to 765,702 head, against about 850,000 in 1867, and 368,000 in 1866. The packers have, in a degree, monopolized the market for live and dressed hogs to the exclusion of shippers, but prices have now advanced so materially that there can be no chance of profit in the business. There is certainly none in the present state of the provision market, and they may possibly run a fair chance of loss even in the future. The quality of the live hogs arriving is very inferior, while the dressed hogs are very prime. The market closes firm at $6 50@7 for inferior, and $7 50@8 50 gross for choice live. Dressed also closed firmly at $8 75@9 dividing on 20 lbs.

Most products have been in active demand at better prices, but mess pork least of all. To-day, however, there was some slight improvement and sales were made at $21 50 for present and future delivery, buyer the month. Several brands of mess were taken freely at $20. Prime mess sold largely at $17, and holders are now asking $17 25; extra prime and rumps, $16@16 50. The purchases of English meats for domestic consumption and on speculation have been very large. Short ribs are now held at 10½c, loose. Cumberland middles at 9½c, and short clear 11⅛@11¼c, ⅛c less being offered all round. Bulk meats are difficult to purchase under 8½@8¾c for shoulders; 9¾@10c for sides. A lot of 100,000 lbs dry salted hams are offered, deliverable at Peoria, at 11c, same freight as from here guaranteed. Sugar pickled hams firm at 12¾@13c for country and city. Green hams firm at 11½@11¾c. Lard has been the favorite stock of the whole list. All operators feel assured that the yield is very far less than that of last year, while the exports from the various seaports exceed last year's considerably. Most of the lard, it appears, has been shipped to France and the continent, England being a comparative small receiver. The advance in gold and the belief that the necessities of England and the various continental countries will largely increase have made holders regard lard as entirely safe, while many predict an advance in the price of 3@4c ℔ lb before the month of July. Purchasers are numerous at 13½c for present and 13¾c for delivery, buyers this month, but 13¾@14c is generally demanded. No. 1 lard is scarce at ½c under the price of prime. Yellow and white grease are held firmly at 9½@10½c.

Coffee and Sugar at Baltimore.

Coffee—Transactions in coffee have been small this week, the sales amounting in the aggregate to only about 2,500 bags. The sales include a lot of 600 bags common Rio for export at 6¾c, gold, in bond; 500 do do on private terms; 416 bags good do at 10¼c, gold, in bond, and 800 to 1,000 bags common to prime do, in lots, at from 13¾ to 17½c, in gold, duty paid. The market is firm in tone, and we heard that 11¼c, gold, in bond, was refused yesterday for an invoice of 1,000 bags prime Rio. We quote to-day, Rio at 10½@12c, gold, in bond, for fair to prime invoices, and duty paid at 13¼@17¼c, gold, for common to prime.

Sugars—Transactions in sugars continue limited in consequence of the want of stock to operate in. Sugars are wanted, and were the market supplied with suitable grades, there would no doubt be a large business doing in them. The sales this week comprise 80 boxes Cuba at 13¾c, 210 bbls Demerara vacuum pan at 14½c, and we hear also of sales of 250 hhds Cuba to come from Philadelphia to this market on private terms. To-day we have reported sales of 1,600 bags Brazil sugars, to go out of the market, for refining, at 12¼c, and of 20 hhds Demerara vacuum pan at 15¼c. The market is firm in tone.

Refined Sugars—We still quote as follows, viz: Hard crushed at 16½@16¾c, and soft do at 15⅝c for A; 15⅜c for choice A; 15⅛c for B; 15⅛c for C extra, 14½@15c for C yellow.—*Commercial, 8th.*

Gloucester Fish Market.

FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBEURARY 7.

Codfish—No change since last week. There is but a light stock of Grand Bank in the market, which are firm at $4 50.

Mackerel—Small lots of Bay is in first hands held at $16 50@17 00.

Fresh Halibut—Sales of 12,000 lbs Western Bank at $15 ℔ cwt for white, and $8 for grey.

Smoked Do—None in the market.

Fresh Herring—$1 25 ℔ hund.—*Cape Ann Adv.*

Coal at Cincinnati.

There has been a good retail demand all the week, and prices are higher. The rates delivered to consumers are 18@20c ℔ bushel for Ohio river; and 22c to 24c for Pittsburgh. No sales are being made afloat. There is very little at the river unsold, and holders are asking more than buyers will pay.

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

CHICAGO MARKET.

CHICAGO, February 12, 1868.

FLOUR—Firm and unchanged.

WHEAT—Dull and a shade lower; early sales of No. 2 at $2 02, closing at $2 01@2 01¼.

CORN—Dull; new opened at 81¼@81½c, closing steady at the inside.

OATS—Quiet; sales at 57¼@57½c, closing at the inside.

RYE—Moderately active and steady at $1 57@1 58 for No. 1; $1 55 for No. 2.

BARLEY—Quiet at $2 05 for No. 2.

MESS PORK—Sales of straight at $22 50 cash; standard at $22 30 cash, and $22 50 buyer February; prime mess nominal at $18@18 50. Lard firm at 14¼c. Cut meats quiet; shoulders 8⅜c, loose; Cumberland 8¾c, loose; short rib 11⅛c, buyers February and March; sweet pickled hams 12⅛c.

DRESSED HOGS—In fair demand, firmer and 5@10c higher; sales at $8 30@8 75 for light, and $9 25@9 70 for heavy, closing at $8 65@9 40 for good lots. Live quiet at $6 62½@6 85 for fair to medium; $7@8 71½ for fair to choice.

BEEF CATTLE—$6 50@7 for fair to good; $8 25@8 75 for prime to extra prime.

Milwaukee Market.

MILWAUKEE, February 12.—Flour unchanged but firm. Wheat tends upward; sales at $2 05 for No 1, cash, and $2 11, seller's option May. Oats lower at 58¼c for No 2. Rye weak at $1 49. Barley dull at $2 20. Provisions quiet; no quotable change.

Buffalo Market.

BUFFALO, February 12.—Market generally dull and unchanged. The only sales reported were 2 car loads low grade corn on track at $1 06, and 140 dressed hogs at 9½@9¾c.

Philadelphia Market.

PHILADELPHIA, February 13.—Flour firm. Wheat firm; Kentucky white $3 10. Corn—new yellow $1 22@1 35. Oats 75@78c. Provisions improving.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 141⅜@141½.

NEW YORK, February 12—P. M.

MONEY

Easy at 4@5 ℔ cent. on call. Some large balances were let to-day at 3@3½. Prime discounts 6@7.

STERLING

Quiet at 109⅝@109¾, gold.

GOLD

Closed steady; opened at 141⅜, advanced to 141¾, and closed at 141⅜@141½. The Siberia took $91,985.

GOVERNMENTS.

Henry Clewes & Co. report Governments strong, especially on bonds of '67. Closing quotations at 4:30 P. M.. Coupons '81, 112@112¼; do '62, 111⅛@111¾; do '64, 109@109¼; do '65, 109⅛@110; do new, 107⅜@108⅛; do '67, 108⅛@108¼; 10-40s, 104⅞@105; 7-30s, 107½@107¾.

STOCKS

Active and strong. The upward tendency has drawn out the bear opposition on some shares, in which there is considerable short interest, and Reading was especially attacked. Rock Island was active under the decision by Judge Cardozo, retaining the case of Fisk and others in the Supreme Court. The second suit of Hatch against the road is, however, removed to the United States Court, as the sole plaintiff is a resident of this State. Prices generally declined in the afternoon, but closed strong and active with a general recovery. New York Central was the card at the close.

5:30 PRICES.

Canton, 61½@62; Cumberland, 38; Adams Express, 75½@75¾; Merchants' Union, 35¾@35⅞; American, 72@73; United States, 74@75; Wells, 42; Quicksilver, 25; Mariposa, 8; Pacific Mail, 110⅜@110¾; Atlantic, 95@95¼; New York Central, 133⅝@133⅞; Erie, 75⅜@76; preferred, 80¾@80⅞; Hudson, 138¾@138⅞; Harlem preferred, 129⅝; Reading, 94⅛@94⅜; Hartford and Erie, 15⅞; Ohio certificates, 33⅛@33¼; Wabash, 47@47¼; St. Paul, 50⅛@50¼; do preferred, 66⅛@67; Michigan Central, 113; Michigan Southern, 93⅛@93¼; Illinois Central, 138@140; Pittsburgh, 96⅛@96¼; Toledo, 111⅞@111⅛; Rock Island, 98⅞; Northwestern, 61@61⅛; do preferred, 75¼@75⅜; Fort Wayne, 101⅜@101¼; Chicago and Alton, 135; Hannibal & St. Joseph, preferred, 75; Marietta and Cincinnati, first preferred, 28¼; Terre Haute, 50⅛; Columbus, 110; Missouri's, 104¾; Tennessees, 64¾; new do, 66⅛.

MINING SHARES

Firm. Corydon, 40; Quartz Hill, $1 50; Smith & Parmelee, $2 90; Davidson, 35; Gregory, $1 80.

Receipts at the Sub-Treasury $854,910; payments, $2,441,546; balance, $101,371,045.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, February 12.—Cotton opened very firm and closed dull and lower; sales 3,000 bales at 20½@21c for middling uplands. Flour—receipts, 3,611 bbls; a shade firmer, with a fair inquiry, in part for export and speculation; sales 9,800 bbls at $8 30@9 25 for superfine State and western; $9 75@10 75 for extra State; $9 50@11 75 for extra western; $12 50@15 00 for white wheat extra; $9 75@13 75 for round hoop Ohio; $10 45@12 00 for common to good St. Louis; $12 00@15 50 for good to choice extra do, closing steady. California firmer; sales 7,100 sacks at $12 40@13 75, via Horn and $14 00@14 10 via Isthmus. Rye flour firm; sales 350 bbls at $7 50@9 25. Whiskey nominal. Receipts of wheat none; firm, with a moderate inquiry, chiefly for milling; sales 17,400 bush at $2 40 for No. Chicago in store; $2 40 for No 2 Milwaukee; $3 08 for white Canada. Rye quiet; sales 1,200 bush Jersey at $1 71@1 75. Barley firmer; sales 18,500 bush western at $1 20, part on spot and the remainder to arrive in the spring. Malt firmer; sales 2,100 bush at $2@2 05. Receipts of corn 17,900 bush; without decided change and less active; sales 38,000 bush at $1 27@1 29 for new mixed western afloat; $1 26½@1 27 for southern yellow; $1 25@1 32 for white southern, the latter very choice; $1 25@1 26 for yellow Jersey; $1 23 for New Orleans. Receipts of oats 1,730 bush; firmer and quiet; sales 25,000 bush at 85c for western in store. Rice firm. Coffee firm. Sugar firm and quiet; sales 200 hhds Cuba at 12⅜@12¾c. Molasses quiet; sales 100 bbls New Orleans at 80@90c. Hops quiet at 15@60c for American. Petroleum firm at 11c for crude, and 24½c for refined bonded. Coal quiet and unchanged. Leather—hemlock sale very firm and in fair demand at 26½@29c for Buenos Ayres light weight. Wool quiet and steady; sales 210,000 lbs at 35@54c for domestic fleece. Pork quiet and irregular; sales 2,300 bbls at $22 37@22 50 for old mess, closing at $22 50 cash; $23 50 @23 70 for new do, closing at $23 50 cash; $18 50@19 50 for prime; $20 00@20 50 for prime mess. Beef firm; sales of 660 bbls at previous prices; 1,150 tierces at $32 50@45 70 for prime mess; $38 00@40 00 for India mess. Beef hams quiet; sales 265 bbls at $28 00@32 50. Bacon firm and quiet; sales 370 boxes at 10½@10¾c for Cumberland cut; 12½c for short ribbed; 13½c for short clear, and 13c for long ribbed. Cutmeats firmer; sales of 430 packages at 9¾@10c for shoulders, and 13⅛@15c for hams. Dressed hogs quiet and heavy; 9½@10½c for western, chiefly at 10c, and 10½@10⅜c for city. Lard quiet and steady; sales of 750 bbls at 14@15c. Butter firm at 40@52c for State. Cheese quiet at 11@16c. Freights to Liverpool quiet and firm.

LATEST—Flour closed firm with a fair demand for medium and low grades. Wheat quiet and firm at full previous quotations. Rye quiet and steady. Oats firm at 85c for western in store. Corn dull at $1 26@1 29 for new mixed western afloat, and $1 31@1 32 for old mixed western in store. Pork dull and heavy at $22 50 for old mess, and $23 50 for new mess. Beef quiet and firm. Cut meats fairly active and firm. Bacon steady at 11c for Cumberland cut. Lard dull at 14½@15c for fair to prime steam and kettle rendered.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, February 12.—Dry Goods—market for cotton goods excited and moderately active and prices in consequence are every moment advancing. The leading house among the trade has altered prices three times, and yet is not up to the figures of others on many makes. There is great scarcity of all popular makes of brown and bleached muslins, and prices are evidently going still higher. In fact many styles cannot be obtained at any reasonable price, such as New York Mills bleached muslins. The last quotation we had for these was 28c, but if on sale now the goods would bring 30c quick. The Wamsutta are also very scarce, and so are all muslins above 17c. It is impossible to fill orders on this class of goods. Fruit of the Loom are worth 18c; New York Ida Mills and Forest Dale 16½c. Prices of the scarcity of best makes are scarce and worth 17½c, while other makes equally good, such as Indian Head, have been selling at 16½c, which we think now too low. The only thing which has not yet felt the advance is Brown Drills; the Pepperel are selling at 16c; B Boote 16c; Stark 15½c; Amoskeag 16c; Columbia Ravens Duck 26½c. Print cloths have sold at 8¼c. The calico market is consequently quite active, and several prices are up. The Merrimack Company have advanced prices to 14½c for D, 15½c for W, and 16c for do pinks and purples, but the jobbers are selling D at 13¾@14c; W 14½@15c; the Cocheco at 13½@14½c for fancies; Sprague's at 12c; Pacific 13c; Dunnell's, American and Gloucester 12½c; Gloucester Shirtings 15½c, at which price Stewart & Co. show a magnificent stock; Amoskeag 12c; Lowell 11c; Wamsutta 9½c; all the latter are sold out, and will be higher. Ginghams are looking up, although Hampden can still be bought at 15c of jobbers. Delaines can be bought at 18c, but will advance 1c at least soon.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, February 12.—Flour and wheat unchanged. Corn in moderate demand at 83c. Oats dull at 65@66c. Rye $1 60@1 65. Barley in good demand at $2 40@2 45 for fall, and $2 15@2 25 for spring. Cotton sold at 20c for middling in the morning, but closed dull at this rate under the news. Whisky unchanged and dull. Mess pork is held at $23 00, but not saleable at over $22 50@22 75, and not much demand. Bulk meats dull and ¼c lower; sales of shoulders at 8½c, and sides at 10½c. Bacon firm with a fair order demand; shoulders 10@10½c; clear rib sides 12½c; clear 13¼c; sugar cured hams steady at 15@16c. Lard quiet but held firmly at 14½c; no buyers at over 14c; the speculative demand for pork and lard noticed yesterday has disappeared, and the market for all closes quiet. Cheese dull and factory and English dairy are ½c lower. Butter very scarce and sells quickly at 36@40c for fresh. Eggs firm at 32c. Clover seed 13½c, holders ask 14c. Timothy dull at $2 60. Linseed oil $1 15@1 20. Petroleum steady at 42@44c for refined free. Sugar firm and the supply light at 14@16c for raw. Coffee firm at 21@26c. Molasses 70@85c, and stock light. Beef cattle steady at $4 00@5 25 for common to extra shipping. Hogs in demand from butchers at $8 00@8 25 for fat. Sheep scarce and firm at $3 75@5 00 per cental gross. Gold 161⅛ buying. Exchange dull at one-eighth discount buying and par selling.

Cleveland Market.

CLEVELAND, February 12.—Flour quiet, steady and unchanged; XX spring at $10 75@11 50; XX red winter $12 00@13 50; XX white $14 00@15 00; country brands 50c@$1 00 below the above figures. Wheat dull and neglected; No. 1 Milwaukee spring nominally unchanged and held at $2 35; No. 1 red winter offered at $2 55, and No. 2 do at $2 48. Corn is better and fairly active, closing firm; sales of No. 1 shelled on spot, from store, at 90@93c. Oats better but quiet; sales at 66c for No. 1 State from store. Rye not much doing, but market steady at $1 55@1 58 from store. Barley in moderate demand and firm at $2 20@2 30 for No. 1 State and Canada; $1 90@2 00 for No. 2 State. Petroleum quiet and unchanged; standard white in bond 19@20c; prime light straw to white free 38@40c.

St. Louis Market.

ST. LOUIS, February 12.—Tobacco—the demand exceeds the supply and full prices are paid for all that is offering. Cotton would sell at 18@19½c, but the stock is about exhausted. Flour quiet and firm, ranging at $7 00@8 25 for good to choice super; $8 25@9 25 for extra; $9@11 25 for XX; $11 25@12 00 for XXX to fancy. Wheat unchanged at $2 50@2 70 for prime to choice red and white winter; $2 15 for choice club. Corn a little better at 84@86c for shelled, and 75@78c for ear. Oats firm at 66@71c. Barley unchanged at $2 37½ for choice spring, and $2 50@2 60 for prime to choice fall. Rye unchanged at $1 55@1 60. Provisions quiet; mess pork $22 00. Bacon held at 9½@10c for shoulders; 13c for clear sides, with no sales. Lard firm; held at 14c without sales.

Louisville Market.

LOUISVILLE, February 12.—Tobacco active, especially for manufacturing; $6@60 00 for lugs to choice leaf. Flour steady; super $8@8 25. Wheat $2 30@2 45. Corn—ear and shelled in bulk 75@78c. Lard dull. Pork $23. Bacon shoulders 10½c; clear sides 13½c; bulk shoulders 9½c; clear sides 12¼c. Oats 75c. Cotton 17½@18½c.

Baltimore Market.

BALTIMORE, Fbebruary 12.—Flour dull. Wheat scarce and unchanged. Corn advanced 1@2c; prime white and yellow $1 20@1 22. Oats scarce at 75@80c. Rye scarce at $1 60@1 65. Seeds very dull; clover nominally unchanged. Provisions quiet; held ¼c higher; bacon shoulders 9¾c for loose. Lard 14¾@15c.

New Orleans Market.

NEW ORLEANS, February 12.—Cotton active and firm; middlings 19@20c; sales 6,600 bales; receipts, 6,947 bales; exports, 2,862 bales. Sugar higher; 13½c for prime, and 15@15½c for choice. Molasses firm.

MARRIED:

GLOSSER—GORMLY—On the 3d inst., by Rev. S. M. Sparks, Mr. JACOB GLOSSER to Miss LILLIE A. GORMLY. No cards.

RABB—HAIGH—In Madison, Ind., February 3, 8 P. M., by Rev. A. S. Reid, at the residence of the bride's father, GEORGE J. RABB, M. D., of Osgood, Ind., and Miss LIZZIE HAIGH. No cards.

READ—ROBINS—On Thursday, February 6th, at the residence of the bride's mother, by the Rev. James Robinson, assisted by the Rev. J. F. Jones, Mr. CHAS. H. READ and Miss JOSIE H. ROBINS, both of this city.

SHEDDEN—CARTER—On Wednesday, January 29, 1868, at the residence of the bride's mother, by the Rev. Mr. Murphy, Mr. JOHN SHEDDEN and Miss SALLIE CARTER, all of Union township.

GRAY—JOYCE—On the 6th inst., by Rev. I. Dallas, Mr. ROBERT W. GRAY and Miss ANNIE E. JOYCE, all of Allegheny county, Pa.

PAGE—LYTLE—In Philadelphia, February 6th, 1868, by the Rev. E. R. Beadle, D. D., FANNY, daughter of the late Edward H. Lytle, to JOHN H. PAGE, JR., of Pittsburgh.

DIED:

WOODWELL—On Sunday morning, February 2d, at half-past six o'clock, Mrs. REBECCA WOODWELL, in the eighty-ninth year of her age.

DORRINGTON—On Thursday, at 8 o'clock P. M., THOMAS DORRINGTON, in the seventy-seventh year of his age.

FLOOD—At her residence, corner of Grant street and Virgin alley, Pittsburgh, Mrs. CATHARINE FLOOD, relict of the late Thos. Flood, and mother-in-law of John A. Strain, Esq., at 3 o'clock P. M., on Friday, January 31st, 1868, aged sixty-six years.

CAMERON—On Tuesday morning, February 4th, at 8½ o'clock, ALEXANDER CAMERON, aged fifty-three.

HAWKINS—At the residence of her father, W. G. Hawkins, near Braddocksfield, on Friday, the 7th instant, at 3 o'clock P. M., Miss MINERVA HAWKINS.

RINEHART—At his residence, Neville Station, Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, on Saturday morning, 8th inst., at 7:35 o'clock, GEORGE RINEHART, in the twenty-sixth year of his age.

KNOX—On the 10th, at 3:15 P. M., JOSEPH KNOX, youngest son of Joseph and Jane Knox, aged five months and eight days.

RIDDLE—Monday evening, February 10th, at 9 P. M., after a lingering illness, HANNAH M., wife of Robert Riddle, in the thirty-second year of her age.

WATSON—Tuesday morning, at 3 o'clock, E. P. SWIFT, infant son of Andrew and Susan Watson, aged six weeks and five days.

FOX—On February 8th, Miss ELIZABETH FOX, aged twenty-four years.

BLAIR—At the mouth of Yellow Creek, Ohio, on Wednesday, February 12th, 1868, at 3 o'clock and 20 minutes, C. C. BLAIR, in the thirty-eighth year of his age.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Letters of Administration upon the estate of A. A. RANKIN, late of Elizabeth township, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned, all persons having claims against said estate will present them immediately for payment, and all persons indebted to said estate will make payment immediately to the undersigned.

DAVID RANKIN, Administrator.

BELDING, KEITH & CO.,

American Bankers and Merchants,

80 LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E. C.,

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Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1868.

TERMS:

One copy, per year.......$2 00
In clubs of twenty, per year....... 1 50
One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

THE CONNELLSVILLE RAILROAD.

Mr. HUGHART, the President of the Connellsville Railroad Company, has been summoned to Baltimore by the managers of the Baltimore and Ohio Company, to consult with them with reference to measures for the early construction of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad to Cumberland. We understand that there is every probability that the work will be put under contract at an early day. A combination of circumstances favor it, and the friends of the long delayed and many times baffled enterprise have excellent reasons for indulging the belief that under the present auspices it will be pushed to completion.

DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN ENGLAND AND AMERICA.

We have had many subjects of controversy with England—but never one of more inherent interest, or one involving more momentous practical consequences than the settlement of the Alabama claims. And there is another question pending, quite as important both theoretically and practically, viz.: The question involved in the premature concession of belligerent rights to the rebellious South. In truth the latter complaint lies at the root of the whole matter. In regard to the precipitate recognition of the Confederates as engaged in legitimate warfare instead of mere rebellion, one who had happened to be so situated as to observe directly the thoughts of the English middle-class as indicated by their common conversation, might, perhaps, offer the following explanation; an explanation which will be found confirmed by a reference to old files of English newspapers. That the higher aristocracy of England have always been hostile to us needs no proof. Prejudice of rank and regard for their own position and interests will satisfactorily account for their hostility. But the minds of the great middle-class—embracing the lower gentry—the rich manufacturers—the large property holders of plebeian birth and the members of the legal and clerical professions, were ten years ago filled with profound distrust of republicanism. They knew that the vast population below them, with their centres and strongholds in the manufacturing towns—but really spread over all the islands—were daily growing more and more discontented with their place in the social state, and were daily increasing in knowledge of a sort—of their own actual insignifiance and possible power for example. Having stated this fact we have implied that these well to do people were haunted, with a great dread, a dread of much the same kind, and sometimes nearly of the same degree with the dread which haunted the slaveholders of our own South for years before it became too intolerable for quiet endurance. It was also known that to the people of these lower classes the Great Republic of the West, with more or less distinctness, loomed as an earthly paradise. Its existence was to them a prohibition of despair, and a call to live on in good hope for their children if not for themselves. The feeling with which these poor people regarded us was strikingly shown in Lancashire, in Glasgow, and in many other places during the late rebellion, as our readers remember. Hence the sentiments of disgust and almost of detestation with which outspoken Americans and American institutions were looked upon by many Englishmen interested in things as they were. Our countryman going to his "old home" full of delightful memories and friendly feeling, was often shocked and horrified to find himself regarded and treated almost as an enemy. Recognized as an American, he was an object of distrust, while silent; and if his Americanism showed itself, as it was apt to do, he was at once made to feel his inferiority as a republican. Now real ignorance of our country and its history was met with—evidently the ignorance which deemed itself "bliss," because it is folly to know deformity. Oftener it was affected ignorance, or the ignorance of gentility. All these barriers to unconstrained intercourse were sometimes broken down by affectation on the other side. Familiarity with the Sketch-book occassionally proved useful to the young traveler, and by virtue of his knowledge of the poetical side of old English customs, he was allowed to be an exceptional character among his countrymen, a man of fine gentlemanly instincts, able to appreciate the excellencies of church and king, though unfortunate in his birthplace. Then it is only fair to add that without either the hypocrisy of putting on the islander, or the meanness of sinking the American, the visitor sometimes found access to the Englishman's heart. In general, however, there can be no doubt that profound distrust of us and our country was very prevalent. Hence, disbelief in the beneficent working of our institutions. Hence incredulity in regard to propositions for the improvement of international intercourse made by our diplomatists. Hence the assurance, quite common, that our Government and individual citizens were always openly, or secretly engaged in the work of democratic propagandism, whatever protestations of neutrality in old world politics we might make. Hence the confident expectation entertained even by some intelligent English writers that we might any day turn out our whole naval power, national and mercantile, to prey upon the shipping of all other nations.

In view of all actual American abominations, and in anticipation of these prospective horrors, there was one comfort, which was the certainty that we would, in the course of no long time, take to destroying ourselves. Countless books had been written to show what coarse, passionate, uncomely creatures we had become under the influence of our Democratic institutions, and the likelihood of our self-extermination had often been pointed out. Slavery in particular had been indicated as the magazine by the explosion of which we might be expected to vanish from beneath the sun. Southern diplomatists had been active in preparing the minds of men in office and Cabinet Ministers for what was to come. American statesmen and journalists with Northern sympathies, had spoken and written in undecided tone as to the constitutional right of the Government to coerce States wishing to secede. The party in power in England sustained by the classes indicated above wished the South to secede that they might thus render the American Government less formidable. "The United States are too powerful," was the declaration of Lord PALMERSTON. They wished the Confederate States to establish and maintain their separate and independent position as a counterpoise to the North, which would still be a potent nation.

At the time when England granted belligerent rights to the Confederates, a decisive and unmistakable statement of policy and purpose towards the revolted South was momentarily expected from Washington. And the determination to act in the matter before the arrival of Mr. ADAMS, was so obvious and so little a secret that it was censured as undignified by more than one English newspaper. The truth is, they were so confident of the ultimate success of the insurgents, even though the North should attempt to coerce them, that courtesy or deference to the sensibilities of the American Government had already ceased to be a weighty consideration.

Our object has been simply to state the more interesting of the two questions between the American and English governments now waiting for settlement, by recalling in outline the facts of the case. The question to which we refer, is the one which England is unwilling to submit to arbitration. In whatever manner, we earnestly trust that both difficulties may be adjusted without rupture of the peaceful relations now subsisting between the nations. We think there is reason for satisfaction in the fact that Mr. SEWARD is still in the position to employ his high qualifications of wisdom and experience in the settlement of these important affairs.

THE SOLDIER'S STYLE.

There was a time when very distinguished soldiers could be ignorant of both reading and writing without disparagement to either their military skill, or personal dignity. Both these now indispensable accomplishments ranked among those arts of peace which the soldier might properly disdain as needful to the priest and the scrivener, but neither useful nor ornamental to the members of the nobler profession to which he belonged. This estimate of literary education was, however, the concomitant and evidence of a rude form of a low civilization. Both in the high civilizations of the old world and in the high civilization of modern times, a degree of literary culture has been generally deemed almost essential to the full accomplishment of the military man in command. While some eminent Generals have been known to disdain books and the profit and enjoyment derivable from them, several of the most illustrious of the class have been scholarly in their tastes and desirous to make their scholarly tastes known. The greatest soldier of the world, JULIUS CÆSAR, was fond of books and delighted in literary composition. His famous work on grammar was the fruit of one of his journeys from Rome into Gaul. In this book—now not extant—there was a precept often since quoted which shows the interest he felt in his own language, and the importance he attached to its study. The *Commentaries* which contain the history of some of his wars have been admired wherever known, and continue to afford lessons in writing and in the military art even at the present day. In more recent times NAPOLEON first appeared before the public as the writer of a book, and in the height of his fame as a ruler and conqueror, he is known to have been nearly as proud of his mastery over the resources of the French language as of his sway in Europe. A celebrated English historian, who had read all his proclamations and all his speeches in the meetings of the Commission on the Code, expresses the opinion that if NAPOLEON had not been the greatest soldier, he might, and probably would have been, the greatest author of his age.

WELLINGTON also is justly admired for his writings. It has been affirmed by one who had read all his dispatches, that they do not contain an obscure sentence. This quality of perspicuity is also the most obvious characteristic of the letters, journals and State papers of WASHINGTON. In connection with these names and with this subject we cannot but think of General GRANT. Any one who should devote a week or two to the perusal of the extant writings of the celebrated men just named, ought to be able to describe, or characterize by precise epithets the style of written speech appropriate to the soldier. Precision, or the avoidance of unnecessary words—always an excellence—is especially appropriate to the style of the man who writes because he has something important to say. DANIEL WEBSTER remarked that "he had been striving all his life to discard words." "Remember that words are the counters of wise men and the money of fools" was the injunction of a great thinker. Hence in GRANT's writing for example the absence of those roundabout phrases and elaborate circumlocutions which, though agreeable to the ear of the hearer and to the eye of the reader, impart nothing to the sense to be expressed. He evidently writes without giving a thought to his style. Like COBBET, he uses the first word that presents itself as the equivalent of his idea. Simplicity, directness and vigor, and consequent clearness of expression, are features of every dispatch and letter of his we have ever read. No doubt some of these compositions were produced in great haste, and occasional sentences may be found in them which might be improved by revision. The fact that such sentences are met with in his writing is evidence of the General's indifference to the small prettiness of rhetoric.

His letters, published in our yesterday's paper, having been written without consultation with any one, as we learn from Washington, were given to the public in the form in which they were first produced, of course excepting the errors of the telegraph. If General GRANT cared to appear as the master of a style of peculiar elegance and finish, how easy, with the resources at his command, to have his sentences elaborated to the highest finish. But we do not believe that in the great essentials of perspicuity, manly downrightness and energy, it would be possible to improve them.

CHEAP TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN PITTSBURGH AND LAKE ERIE.

A few years since the opinion appeared to be generally accepted that canals were played out institutions, and that in future inland communication would be entirely by railroads. The experience of the last ten years with the New York canals has clearly demonstrated that heavy articles of commerce, in which time is not a vital element, can be carried at one-fourth the rates charged upon railroads. This has led to the enlargement of the New York canal to pass boats of two hundred and fifty tons burthen, and now it is proposed to still further enlarge them to pass boats of the capacity of at least four hundred tons burthen, and also to construct a ship canal from the Lakes to the Mississippi river. In this condition of things, ought not the manufacturing and commercial interests of Pittsburgh and all Pennsylvania to inquire what can be done to connect the Ohio river with the cheap transportation of the Northern Lakes? In regard to travel and merchandise generally, railroads will always do that business. But the heavy products of Pittsburgh manufacture, the great cereal crops of the west, the iron, copper and lead ores of the northern lakes, and the coal for gas and fuel alone produced in Pennsylvania—all these demand cheap transportation to market. If Pittsburgh intends to retain her ascendency as a manufacturing point, she must have cheaper transportation to her customers than railroads now afford her.

If the eastern railroads terminating at Pittsburgh intend to compete for the transportation of heavy products, Pittsburgh must be brought into direct connection by water with a lake port. It is believed that an expenditure of about six millions of dollars can accomplish this purpose. We allude to the slackwatering of the Ohio River to the mouth of the Beaver, and the enlargement of the Erie canal from Beaver to Lake Erie. W. MILNOR ROBERTS, a citizen of Pittsburgh, and a civil engineer of great ability, has made a report on the enlargement of the Erie Canal, one hundred and thirty-six miles in length. The slackwatering of the Ohio river to Pittsburgh, twenty-five miles more, or one hundred and sixty-one miles in all, would accomplish this great purpose. If the Erie Canal were enlarged to pass barges of three hundred to four hundred tons burthen, heavy articles of Pittsburgh manufacture could be loaded into barges, sent through the Canal to Lake Erie, and thence be towed to all points on the Lakes without breaking bulk. Coal could be shipped into barges on the Monongahela, and not unloaded until Buffalo, Albany and New York on the East, and Chicago and Lake Superior on the Northwest were reached. These same barges could be loaded with any and all products of the Lake country, in which time was not vital, at one-fourth of the rates now charged.

Why should not all the Pennsylvania and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads unite with the heavy transportation interests of Pittsburgh to bring about this connection to the Lakes? If the Mississippi ship canal project is pressed upon Congress then this connection of the Ohio and the Lakes ought to go with it, *pari passu*. If that is too big a machine, why not, by a combined effort, secure State aid to one-half the amount and individual aid to the other half? Mr. ROBERTS, who has the Ohio river improvement in charge, can very nearly estimate the cost of the entire improvement. Five dams on the Ohio river would slackwater that stream to the mouth of the Beaver. The fall is probably about thirty-three feet. The cost of the Erie canal enlargement has been estimated at $2,500,000. Allow the same amount for the cost of the Ohio river improvement and we have five millions, and add one million more, for unforeseen contingencies, and we have as the entire estimated cost of the work six millions of dollars. We invite discussion on this project—now probably the most important one that can be suggested in regard to the future welfare of Pittsburgh and all Western Pennsylvania.

THE WISDOM OF PROVERBS AND GENERAL GRANT.

While we yield to none in our respect for our General's soldiership, it is not the one of his attributes of which we think with most pleasure. There is a homely phrase still known to all, but not so current and so often in the mouths of men as formerly—which frequently occurs to us in connection with his name. *Mother Wit* is the phrase we mean. No doubt this quality was of vast use to GRANT in his military career, but his possession and employment of it have been most frequently and effectively illustrated in his course as a civilian. To define the words, or attempt to tell the least intelligent of our readers what they mean, would be as supererogatory a bit of effort as anything one can imagine. To explain candy to a schoolboy, or peat to an Irishman, would hardly be more superfluous. But there is an illustration of the subject which may not be quite so commonplace as a mere definition. General GRANT, more frequently than any other eminent man of the present, seems to us to exemplify the wisdom of familiar proverbs, and we cannot help suspecting that those popular sayings must be favorites with him, though we are unable to produce direct and positive evidence of his taste. ALEXANDER THE GREAT, as every schoolboy knows, had HOMER's poems daily in his hands, and appropriated for their preservation a very costly casket, beautified with gold and jewels. NAPOLEON's favorite books were CÆSAR's Commentaries and OSSIAN. Of GRANT's bookish tastes we have heard nothing, but suspect that he finds both guidance and entertainment in the meditation of those common sayings which Lord JOHN RUSSELL long ago described as "the wit of one and the wisdom of many," and which we call proverbs. We are aware that this will be regarded by some as an offensive charge against the General, as a grave disparagement of his character. Lord CHESTERFIELD says, "a man of fashion never quotes a proverb," and his lordship's dictum carries with it a tremendous ponderosity, whether of censure or of praise. Even now HOMER's reputation has hardly recovered from the crushing effect of that nobleman's remark, that "the Iliad is sometimes very vulgar in its details." But let us remind the reader that GRANT has not been charged with quoting proverbs, but simply with admiring them and drawing from them rules to regulate his conduct. Therefore, no palpable violation or infringement of CHESTERFIELD ethics, or the code of fashion canfairly be said to lie at his door. To be sure, the fact once admitted that he loves the forbidden thing in secret, may suggest damaging suspicion in regard to the radical soundness of his refinement. But about that we confess ourselves not seriously troubled. Wisdom is better even than fashion, and in our satisfaction that our great soldier, and future President, admires and endeavors to make his own by practice the prudence of ages embodied in proverbs, we can easily forgive the vulgarity in taste.

The suspicion that GRANT possesses this taste had often crossed our mind before, but a sentence in his letter to the President—dated January 25, 1868, and printed in yesterday's COMMERCIAL—first gave us confidence in our theory, and changed our suspicion into a degree of certainty. "What is written admits of no misunderstanding," writes the General. This sentence is at once a proverb and not a proverb. The writer evidently has in mind the venerable proverb of both Greek and Roman antiquity—"The written letter remains." Perhaps, to avoid the criticism of Lord CHESTERFIELD he does not quote the old saying in so many words, but adopting its wisdom, he gives it a form to suit his purpose, and does this with a skill which implies long familiraity with gnomic literature and a full appreciation of its character.

Then again in reading the whole correspondence, of which this letter of GRANT's is a portion, who can fail to be reminded of the Chinese proverb, which seems also to have been present to the General's mind, "One has never so much need of his wit as when he has to do with an unwise man." An old English proverb is likewise suggested, "Burn not thy fingers to snuff another man's candle."

But to us the proverb which most frequently occurs in watching the course of our great General, is one of Eastern origin. The precept it implies is daily violated or disregarded to the injury of many, and doubtless will continue to be contemned, or forgotten to the ruin of multitudes so long as ST. JAMES's account of the tongue remains true, "The tongue is a little member and boasteth great things. And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity; so is the tongue among our members, that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature." Among our rulers and legislators what copiousness of words! what fluency of speech! what eloquence! and where eloquence is not, what overpowering loquacity! A visitor from another planet, or from another hemisphere, who should hear a few of the discourses which it is our privilege to read, and who happened to be ignorant of the possibility of being wise in speech and foolish, or feeble, or undecided in action, might well wonder at the imbroglio in which our national affairs are involved. The fact is that we are a nation living the experience and exemplifying the facts which, in an older civilization, and in view of a longer history, suggested the Persian proverb, "speech is silvern, silence is golden." The saying is founded on a grand psychological truth, that one of the first requisites to wise, energetic and well directed action is the silence which springs from the conscious difficulty of speaking the right word under complicated circumstances, which recognizes the emptiness of mere words, and which has the courage to disdain the misinterpretation or misconstruction of babblers.

AMERICAN CHAPEL AT ROME.

JOHN A. KING, Jr., Esq., New York, has been selected to take charge of funds, to raise which an effort is being made, for the support of the American Chapel at Rome. Touching the expulsion, practically, of this place of worship, Mr. KING says; "Hitherto we have been obliged to worship under the protection of the flag in the cramped rooms of the Embassy—a worship necessarily intermitted when the Embassy was vacant—but now through the efforts of the last Minister Resident, the Roman authorities have withdrawn their objections to the establishment of a more permanent chapel."

This would seem to settle, if it was not already settled, the question whether or not the right to continue the American Chapel was denied. Of course, the "objections" could not be "withdrawn" if they never existed. The following is the remainder of Mr. KING's letter:

"To secure the lease of a suitable building for a term of years, and to prepare the same for sacred uses, at a moment when our Embassy had quasi ceased, and when travelers had left for the north, it was necessary that some one should immediately become responsible for the pecuniary outlays. The Rev. Dr. Lyman did not hesitate, consequently he is under personal obligations for about five thousand dollars. He felt, and justly felt, it was no time to hesitate, and doubted not he would be promptly sustained at home by such as had experienced the great comfort of religious services in Rome, and by others who, blessed with means, delighted in using a portion thereof for spreading the Gospel.

"I appeal, therefore, in his name to each of these classes, and as he was prompt in seizing his opportunity, so let us be prompt in relieving him of his heavy responsibility.

"Contributions for that purpose may be sent to me, care of Messrs. James G. Kings' Sons, William street, N. Y., or at the Brevoort House, N. Y.

"JOHN A. KING, JR."

A NATIONAL RAILROAD SYSTEM.—General Hiram Walbridge, of New York, presented to the National Commercial Convention, in session at Boston, a paper urging the necessity of instant and thoughtful attention to the great importance of securing a national railway system which shall effectually remedy existing evils and deficiencies.

The Tax Laws of the State.

We have received a pamphlot copy of the report of the Auditor General, Secretary of the Commonwealth and State Treasurer, on the tax laws of the State, made in compliance with the joint resolutions of the Legislature, approved April 12th, 1867, relative to revising, collating and digesting the tax laws of Pennsylvania. The Commissioners report that, under the resolutions, they had no authority to change or modify, but simply to digest existing laws—a matter which they regret, as there are some defects in the present system which nothing short of a radical change can remedy. In regard to the school taxes, it was not deemed advisable to disturb the existing system, especially as the commissioners appointed to revise the civil code will necessarily act upon the whole law on the subject of common schools. Nor has it been thought proper to interfere with taxation for municipal purposes, which is exclusively regulated by local and special laws. The subject of township rates and levies is so interwoven in the county system, that it was deemed best to retain it in the same general law. Six several bills have been proposed, and are submitted in the report, to revise, amend and consolidate existing laws regulating—1. Enrolment tax. 2. The assessment and collection of State taxes, and county and township rates and levies. 3. State taxes upon offices, on process, and on commissions. 4. Taxing corporations, brokers and bankers. 5. The licensing of foreign insurance companies. Supplement to an act to consolidate existing laws for the collection and assessment of State taxes, and county and township rates, and levies. As a general rule, the classification of subjects, and the arrangement of subjects, are the same as in Brightley's Digest. In most cases, the sections of existing laws have been incorporated into the proposed bills without change, but some modifications are found necessary to prevent repetition, contradiction or obscurity.

The proposed law, regulating enrolment tax, is to be executed by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and the three in relation to tax on officers, process and commissions, on corporations, and on license of foreign insurance companies, are to be executed by the Auditor General and State Treasurer. We quote as follows from the report:

> The new law for the assessment of State and county taxes, having to be enforced by the various local authorities, and by a more complicated machinery, some further elucidation is regarded as necessary; and especially, in view of the proposed supplement thereto. It appears, on examination, that the subjects embraced in this last mentioned law and supplement, are now regulated by sixty-eight different enactments, covering a period of eighty-seven years from the act of 1st March, 1780, down to that of 10th April, 1867. The effort has been made, in the bills submitted, to collate, revise, and consolidate all the provisions of these sixty-eight statutes now in force, into one harmonious system; and it is intended and proposed that all former laws on these subjects shall be repealed.

The radical defects in our system for the collection and assessment of taxes, as developed from information obtained from the several County Commissioners and Treasurers throughout the State, are alluded to in the report. The following remarks on this subject, although not new to our readers (as we have on several occasions had occasion to direct attention to these same defects), are quoted to show that the Commissioners have stated the case fully and fairly to the Legislature.

> So manifest and universal are the inequalities in our present assessments, they vitiate our whole system. Taxation, to be just, should be equal; and it is conceded by all who know anything on this subject, that this great end has never been attained. The law imperatively requires that in all assessments made, every item of property shall be valued at "the actual value thereof, and at such rates and prices for which the same would separately bona fide sell." Yet these plain provisions of the statute, so indispensable to a just basis of taxation, are uniformly disregarded, and it is usual to assess property at from one-fifth to one-third and one-half its real value. That sworn officers could, year after year, so utterly disregard the law, would seem incredible, had the fact not been continually demonstrated to every tax-payer in the State. Many causes may have operated to effect this result; but it cannot be doubted that the evils and tempations incident to the elective system lie at the bottom of this perpetual fountain of injustice and wrong. It is believed a due regard for the rights and interests of our people requires a total abolition of the present system, and the substitution of something better. Whether assessors should not by the Courts, or by some other authority, under such regulations as the Legislature might see proper to impose, is respectfully submitted as well worthy the most serious and careful consideration.
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> The defect in the present system of collecting taxes by township collectors, instead of by one collector for each county, it is proposed to remedy by the abolition of township, ward and borough collectors, for State and county taxes, and to confer the necessary powers to discharge the duties on the county treasurers of the respective counties. The system proposed has long been in use in other States, and has worked well. Our system has proved expensive, inefficient and unsatisfactory, and is the subject of general complaint. By an act, approved the 3d of April, 1851, the proposed system was introduced into the county of Venango; and since that time, by some ten different enactments, it has been extended to the counties of Beaver, Bucks, Carbon, Cumberland, Franklin, Jefferson, Luzerne, Mercer and Monroe. The same system, substantially, has also been extended to Allegheny and Philadelphia, and in no instance has it ever been abandoned, after trial. In all the counties in which the new system is in operation the expenses of collection have been greatly diminished, and the duplicates for the several townships and districts have been promptly settled up; whilst under the old system it is usual to have outstanding duplicates unsettled for several preceding years. To remedy these evils it is earnestly recommended that the supplement to the general tax law, herewith submitted, be promptly enacted.
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> It simply consolidates into one harmonious whole the provisions of the several laws now in force in the counties named, and repeals all former laws on the subject. So convinced are the undersigned that this should be done, they would have incorporated this new system of collection into the general law, submitted on State and county taxes, but for an unwillingness to assume authority not conferred, and an apprehension that, by reason of the slowness of our people to adopt reforms, it might cause the whole matter to share the fate of sundry former reports and codifications of the revenue and tax laws of this Commonwealth.

The report, on the whole, seems to have been prepared with great care and ability, and it is but reasonable to expect that the Legislature will give the several bills, and the recommendations and suggestions appended thereto, that consideration which the importance of the subject demands.

Branch Railroad to Somerset.

A meeting of the citizens of Somerset and vicinity was held on Saturday evening, to take into consideration the proposition for the construction of a branch road leading from Somerset to the main line of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad. The object of the meeting was ably set forth by Messrs. Hugus, Scull, W. J. Baer, Roddy, and J. J. Schell, all of whom urged the importance of speedy action on the part of the citizens, and consultation with the President and Directors of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company with reference to the proposed branch. The following named gentlemen were appointed a committee to confer with the officers of the above named company: Messrs. M. A. Sanner, W. J. Baer, Isaac Hugus, Edward Scull, J. D. Roddy, and J. J. Schell. The following resolution, offered by W. J. Baer, Esq., was unanimously approved:

> *Resolved*, That W. Oden Hughart, the able and efficient President of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad Company; B. F. Latrobe, its Chief Engineer; Ed. Scull, its Counsel resident here, and its Board of Directors, are entitled to our warmest thanks for the persevering energy and skill with which they have for years maintained the rights of their Company against a powerful monopoly, and now that their action has received the approval of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and the tardy but just recognition of the Legislature, we trust that they may be able to overcome all future obstacles, and reap the rich reward of their labors in an early completion of the road.

The following named gentlemen were appointed a committee to solicit and receive subscriptions for the construction of the branch road, in case the conference with the officers of the Pittsburgh and Cleveland Railroad Company proves satisfactory: Wm. J. Baer, A. T. Ankeny and Cyrus Meyers, of Somerset borough; Jacob D. Miller, Philip Walker and Abraham Beam, of Somerset township; Samuel Barclay and Wm. Baker, of Milford township; Christ. L. Miller and Henry Schlag, of Jefferson township; Ed. Kiernan, of Jenner township; John H. Snyder, of Stoystown borough; and Samuel Dunham, of Stonycreek township.

Our Educational Interests.

A meeting of the friends of education, composed of presidents and professors of colleges, members of the Legislature, and others, convened in the rooms of the School Department, at the State capitol, Harrisburg, on Wednesday, for the purpose of trying to establish a system by which the colleges and common schools of the State can be brought into more immediate relation with each other, and to promote harmony among all the respective departments of education. A resolution declaring the present relations between the colleges and common schools as unsatisfactory, was debated by Representative Ewing of Washington, Ex-Senator Bigham of Allegheny, Dr. Johnson of Carlisle, Dr. Dickey, of Chester, Prof. Loomis of Allegheny, Dr. Vincent, of Westminister College, Judge Derickson, of the civil code commissioners, Prof. Travelli, of Allegheny county, Prof. S. G. Boyd, of York, Dr. Nevin, of Lancaster and Senator Browne, of Lawrence. At the close of the discussion, the subject was referred for the purpose of determining what action should be taken, to the following committee: Prof. Wickersham, Chairman; Hon. T. J. Bigham, Drs. Johnson, Loomis, (Allegheny), Hay, Nevin, Dickey, Loomis, (Lewisburg University), and Hon. Mr. Ewing of Washington.

A Thorn in the Side of England.

The Sultan of Turkey, a few years ago, contracted with the Thames Iron Works Company, London, for an iron-clad vessel, which should surpass in all respects any other in existence. The ship was built, but the Sultan could not pay for it. The British Admiralty had the first chance of buying it, but it was not improved; and Prussia has become the purchaser. She is 365 feet in length; breadth, 60 feet; of 6,000 tons burden; her engines, nominally of 1,500 horse-power, can be worked up to 7,000 horse-power; and the ship is so armored as to present at no point less than six inches of solid plate, and generally eight inches, backed by ten-inch teak, and a double iron skin. Her armament includes twenty-six three-hundred-pounders, and seven hundred men will be required to man the ship. Having become aware of the purchase, which might have been made by the British Admiralty but for red-tape and circumlocution, the London *Times* says: Woe betide any of our vessels of the Warrior or Minotaur class which shall meet her.

A delegation of Cornplanter Indians are in Harrisburg seeking legislation concerning their tribe.

The Tax on Corporations.

We have already published the main features of the report of the Auditor General, Secretary of the Commonwealth, and State Treasurer, on the subject of revising and consolidating the tax laws of the Commonwealth. In their investigation on the subject, they take special pains to show how important a part corporations bear in the general tax system, and recommend caution in altering or amending the laws which have contributed so largely to the revenues of the State. They present the following as a summary of the revenues derived from the various acts taxing corporations:

During the past six years we find that the revenue derived from the tax on capital stock, has been in—

1862	$ 423,455 74
1863	438,622 26
1864	838,292 92
1865	1,237,953 18
1866	1,258,940 06
1867	1,209,624 17

Notwithstanding the State banks were generally converted into National banks, and the tax derived from their capital, once a very large proportion of the revenue from this source, gradually failed, it will be observed that this tax was nearly doubled between the years 1864 and 1865, and that the highest mark of 1866 has been nearly maintained during the last year. In fact, the general average of the year 1867 is greater than that of 1866, but the larger aggregate of that year is due to extraordinary dividends of several large corporations.

The tax on net earnings or income, imposed by the act of 1864, has yielded the following sums:

1864	$ 18,666 66
1865	143,073 24
1866	163,240 37
1867	242,124 36

Showing a steady and gratifying increase. This tax has been resisted at every step, by companies appealing from settlements made by the Auditor General and State Treasurer. Judge Pearson has fully sustained the accounting officers, in the view that the tax on net earnings is in addition to the tax on capital stock. The tax on tonnage has yielded in

1864	$198,747 02
1865	338,993 90
1866	401,741 58
1867	336,317 06

The falling off in 1867, is attributable partly to the diminution of business, and partly to the decision by which tonnage carried to or from the State has escaped taxation.

The tax on gross receipts yielded in—

1866	$132,472 33
1867	342,332 27

And the tax on anthracite coal, recently imposed, the sum of $102,936 59 in the past year, which is more than an equivalent for the falling off in the tonnage tax.

From this hasty survey, it will be observed that whereas the entire amount of taxation derived from corporations of every description, in the year 1862, including tax on bank dividends, was $606,916 33; in the past fiscal year, it amounted to $2,233,734 35, exclusive of tax on National bank stock and bonus on charters.

We have seriously considered the propriety of consolidating some of these different taxes, with the view of rendering the laws more simple and easily understood, but, having in view the aggregate of the revenue derived therefrom, we have discovered that such action would be hazardous, and concluded to confine our labors to the work of consolidation and revision within the scope of the authority delegated.

The tax on foreign insurance companies licensed under the act of 1856, and its supplements, to transact business in this State, has been in

1862	$ 33,528 23
1863	41,630 74
1864	51,218 32
1865	110,551 96
1866	128,758 12
1867	190,952 29

The law regulating the licensing of these companies, enacted at different times and spread over a wide surface, have all been comprehended in a single law, without altering or impairing the *system*, from the operation of which the State has derived so handsome a revenue, and which has proved beneficial to the people. We are not aware of a single instance in which any citizen of Pennsylvania has suffered loss from the failure of an insurance company regularly licensed to transact business in this State.

"Negro Domination."

[From the Boston Advertiser.]

It is, of course, well known that the conventions now sitting in nearly all of the Southern States have been elected by the combined votes of blacks and whites. No one complains that the blacks have not had fair play in the registration; and while some whites certainly may be supposed to have stayed away from the ballot box in anger, it is evident that the negroes can hardly expect ever again to enjoy so much comparative power as at present. What then has been the result—what has been the practical working of negro suffrage? We apply the crucial test of figures. In Virginia, 25 out of 105 delegates, or somewhat less than one-fourth of the convention, are colored men, and among the whites there are 33 conservatives. In North Carolina, 13 out of 120 delegates, or less than one-ninth, are blacks, and the white conservatives number 13. In Mississippi, 12 out of 120 delegates, or one-tenth, are black, and there are at least 26 white conservatives. In Louisiana, the blacks are in a majority of ten; a fact which is attributed in a great measure to the slaughter and the exodus of white voters, caused by yellow fever, just at the important season. In the remaining States our figures may not in every case be absolutely accurate, but they are so close an approximation to the truth that any slight variance which may exist can have no appreciable effect. In Florida, about 20 out of 80 members are blacks. In Georgia, the blacks are about 15 out of 169, or less than one-eleventh. In Alabama, they number about 18, and constitute about one-fifth of the whole body. In Arkansas, they are about 5 out of 75, or less than one-fifteenth of the whole. In South Carolina, we have been less successful in obtaining trustworthy data, but we believe the number of whites and blacks are not far from equal. Of the latter, two are graduates of universities. In Texas, the delegates have not yet been chosen.

We have gathered these statistics with no little difficulty, and we have every reason to believe that, though they may not in actually every case be minutely accurate, yet for the practical purpose of showing the respective proportions of the races, they are perfectly sound. The important conclusions necessarily to be drawn from them are obvious. Not only have the blacks used their formidable power with moderation and refused to allow color, simply as such, to enter as an element into the election, but often at least it will be seen that there are more white men of the class called "conservatives" than there are negroes in the conventions. As to the test of the spirit and ability of these bodies furnished by the manner in which they have done their work, we have already expressed our views on the Alabama consitution; and believe these coincide with the views of Republicans generally throughout the country. The labors of the other conventions are still incomplete; but in the brief telegraphic reports of their proceedings we have seen nothing to indicate that they are not doing as well as the Alabamians have done. This plan of simple figures, in which no rhetoric or false logic can work deception, ought surely to cure the unjust and unfounded prejudices which have lurked, half-acknowledged, in the minds of many Republicans, and which are proclaimed loudly, and perhaps with sincere conviction founded in ignorance of these facts, by the entire Democratic party.

The State Lunatic Hospital.

The Board of Trustees of the Pennsylvania State Lunatic Asylum, in their report of the affairs of the Institution for the year 1867, say:

"There were in the hospital, on the 1st day of January, 1867, 327 patients, viz.: 181 males and 146 females; admitted during the year, 170, viz.: 99 males and 71 females; discharged during the year, 157, viz.: 95 males and 62 females. Of this number 51 were restored, 39 improved, 33 were stationary, and 34 died. There remained in the Hospital, December 31st, 1867, 340, viz: 185 males and 155 females. Although the admissions have not been so many as in the previous year, there is a decided increase in the number of patients, and during the whole year the wards, more particularly those occupied by the men, have been crowded. Such was the pressure during the early part of the summer, that the Board thought it advisable to have public notice given that none but recent cases of insanity could be admitted until the number was reduced considerably below what it was in the early part of the month of July.

"This was the first time they had felt the necessity of exercising the restrictive power given by the law, that while ample provision was not made by the State for all classes of insanity, "recent cases shall have the preference over those of long standing;" and it is to be feared that the Board will not have it in their power to relax the force of that law during the coming year. It is earnestly to be hoped that the Legislature will see the wisdom, the propriety and the necessity of making, promptly, the most ample provision for the large number of insane which claim the fostering care of the Commonwealth, and who, more than any other class, need that care and treatment which are due to the most afflicted class of her citizens."

The Feeling in the South.

Notwithstanding we are told day after day by leading Democratic papers that the South is loyal and peacefully inclined, and that there is no need for military rule within its borders, we occasionally find that the passions and animosities engendered by the rebellion are still carefully cherished, and that it is really a difficult matter for a traitor of 1865 to become a patriot in 1868. The Richmond *Enquirer* said of the Reconstruction Conventions: "These illegal, grotesque and monstrous bodies would not be permitted to exist for a day, if they were not upheld by Federal soldiery. It is important to our reputation that mankind should know that the white men of Virginia *do not intend* to permit the work of these debased wretches to stand one moment longer than the soldier by his presence is able to uphold it."

RIVER IRONCLADS.—There are now laid up at Mound City, Illinois, eight monitors. It is proposed to excavate a basin, at a cost of $100,000, in which they may be allowed to rot without further expense. As the chances for our need of river ironclads are not very promising, probably it would be better to get rid of the present stock by breaking them up and selling them, if purchasers cannot be found for them as they lie.

STATE POLITICS.

The Republicans of Lawrence county will meet in Convention, on Wednesday, at New Castle, to select delegates to represent the county and district in the State Convention. E. S. Durban, Esq., Chairman of the County Committee, issues with his call a well timed address, concluding as follows: "A thing well begun is half done. Let the campaign be opened right, and to that end let all who can attend, and aid one another by words of counsel and good cheer. Let us select good and true men to represent us in the State Convention—men who will faithfully and zealously reflect our views. Let them be selected, not by a few, but by the mass of the party, and the campaign thus harmoniously begun, will be vigorously prosecuted to a glorious victory."

The Republicans of Bedford county will meet to-morrow evening, 11th inst., to elect a delegate to the State Convention. J. H. Longnecker urges upon Republicans a thorough organization throughout the county for this eventful campaign.

The Perry county Republicans have chosen Samuel Foster representative delegate to the State Convention. His constituents, in convention assembled, declared for Grant and Curtin for President and Vice-President.

The Republicans of Cambria county hold their convention to elect a delegate to the State Convention on Tuesday, March 3d.

The Republicans of Montgomery county will hold a county convention on the 20th instant, to choose delegates to the State and National Conventions.

The Berks county Republicans hold their convention on Saturday, February 29th, 1868, to elect delegates to the State and two to the National Convention, and also choose a candidate for Presidential elector.

The Presidential campaign in Wayne county was opened at Honesdale, on Wednesday evening, by a large and enthusiastic Republican meeting, filling the Court House. The meeting was opened by C. P. Waller, Esq., who, on behalf of the Republican State Committee, of which he is a member, in a short address, presented the banner awarded to Wayne county. Mr. Waller was responded to by S. E. Dimmick, Esq., in a very happy and forcible speech, after which Judge Linn, of Center county, was called out, and made a very happy and pertinent address, followed by other gentlemen. Resolutions were passed indorsing Grant and Curtin as the choice of Wayne county for the Presidency and Vice Presidency.

The Republicans of Clarion county held a public meeting on Monday evening, 3d inst., for the purpose of organizing for the campaign and electing delegates to the State Convention. The Committee on Resolutions reported a series indorsing General Grant for the Presidency; commending the administration of Governor Geary; declaring for a free railroad law and complimenting Governor Geary for his efforts in behalf of such law, and naming Hon. Galusha A. Grow as the choice for the Vice Presidency. On motion of Major Reid, the resolutions be adopted *en masse*, which was amended by changing the last resolution in favor of Hon. A. G. Curtin instead of Mr. Grow for Vice president. The resolutions were then adopted. R. J. Reid was appointed Representative Delegate and G. W. Lathy Senatorial Delegate.

The Republicans of Philadelphia will hold their primary meetings for the election of delegates to State and National Conventions on the 25th inst.

STATE ITEMS.

An application is to be made to the Legislature by the authorities of Harrisburg for power to borrow $200,000.

The Grand Jury of Blair county last week presented the county jail in Hollidaysburg as a nuisance, and totally unfit for the purpose for which it was designed.

The Mercer County Republican Committee will meet at Mercer on the 14th inst., for the purpose of electing delegates to the State Convention, which meets in Philadelphia, March 11th.

An agreement has been entered into between the trustees of the Chambersburg Academy and Mr. J. H. Shoemaker, of Academia, Juniata county, Pennsylvania, by which the new building erected on the site of the one burned by the rebels, and which is in an unfinished state, is to be completed. Mr. Shoemaker is to furnish the trustees $3,000, for which he gets a lease of the building for ten years. This arrangement has been made with the view of establishing a first class academy, under charge of Mr. S., who is said to be very successful as a teacher, and at present has charge of a school at Academia.

Mineral lands in Northampton county are rapidly changing hands. The American Slate Company of Bethlehem has sold 25 acres of their tract at Slatington to Mr. Samuel Caskie of the latter place for $25,000. Mr. Val. Hilburn of Easton had disposed of 25 acres of slate land in Northampton county to a Mr. Douglass of New York for $100,000. Mr. Hilburn has also bought a tract of slate property containing 10 acres of Mr. Henry Wert, of Slatington, for $22,000. All the above properties were only partially developed. There appears to be a very lively interest taken in that species of property this winter. Mr. J. Carroll sold his farm of 52 acres, containing zinc ore, for $1,000 an acre, to some Bethlehem and Philadelphia gentlemen. The Lehigh Valley Iron Company has bought a tract of land containing 80 acres, from Jacob Schriver, for $75,000; the land has extensive limestone deposits.

Business in the Lehigh Valley is now somewhat dull, as in other sections of the country, but the iron men are making extensive preparations for the spring and summer. It is proposed to erect from twelve to fifteen furnaces during the coming season, and new stacks are now being erected in addition to those already in operation at the following places: Two at Bethlehem, one at Hellertown, one at Glendon, one at Allentown, one at Alburtis, one at Catasauqua, one at Hokendauqua, and one at Whitehall.

On last Friday, about eleven o'clock, as Mrs. Joshua Wright, of Washington, was attending her usual household duties, she was suddenly struck with apoplexy, and before a physician could be summoned, expired. She had been in her usual health, and the day before had been visiting in the country, and exhibited more than usual vivacity. She was the daughter of the Rev. John White, deceased, formerly of the Pittsburgh Conference of the M. E. Church, and a sister of J. W. F. White, Esq., formerly City Solicitor of Pittsburgh.

Benedict Minsberger, a brewer employed in Meinder's brewery, at Hamburg, Berks county, on Saturday evening last, proceeded to Popp's brewery, in the same place, where he accidentally fell into a large brewer's tub filled with hot water, and scalded himself in the most shocking manner, causing death the Sunday following.

A laborer at the coal shaft of Kimberly, Forker & Co., in Hickory township, Mercer county, was instantly killed on Tuesday by a fall down the shaft. He had pushed an empty car to the mouth of the shaft, supposing the platform upon which the cars are lowered to the mine to be in its proper place, but instead of being at the top, it stood at the bottom, and the car, followed by its unfortunate pusher, went down the shaft, with the result stated. The deceased leaves a wife and seven children, in destitute circumstances.

Three dwellings were burned, with their contents, last week, in Clarion county—one occupied by George Mahle, in Elk township, one by Mr. Weaver, in Ashland township, and one by Mr. Strollinger, at Tippecanoe Furnace. Loss heavy, and no insurance.

The Clarion *Banner* says: On Saturday last, about twelve o'clock, Mr. Wm. Logue was engaged in blasting ore near the Brady's Bend Iron Works, and while placing a charge of powder into the hole for blasting, it is supposed the tamping bar cut the fuse, thus igniting it and producing a terrible explosion, throwing out at least half a ton of ore, resulting in fearfully lacerating the person of Mr. Logue, so that his life is in danger. A large piece of flesh was cut out of his left arm, his lower lip was cut down about an inch, both eyes completely closed, and his whole face left black and crisp. His sufferings are awful.

The Berks *County Journal* says: The mystery of the Rehrer murder in Schuylkill county, which was thought about to be unravelled a week or two ago, is becoming a greater mystery than ever. At a hearing of the suspected persons last Monday, all were discharged. The "detective" who was said to have worked up the case, turns out to be a swindler whose object was to extort money from the friends of the deceased; and he has been committed to jail to answer. The stories about the dead letter, the arrest of two Irishmen in Buffalo, the confession of young Albrighton, and the washing of the bloody clothes at Loomison's are all said to be villainous lies, raised no doubt to ward off suspicion from the real guilty parties. The police are still searching for the body of Capt. Rehrer, and at last accounts were pumping out the old slope of the Marshfield Colliery for the purpose.

The Rent Question in the East.

The good people of Brooklyn seem to be almost completely absorbed just now in the study of the question of rents for 1868. The question, "Will prices decline, advance or stand still?" is answered by the real estate dealers that there will be no appreciable change in the prices asked for dwelling houses that have long stood, or that are to be devoted to domestic purposes. It is believed there that the highest price landlords dare ask, and tenants afford to pay, has been reached. Since 1864 all who were not fortunate enough to secure leases for a term, but who depend on annual rents have been compelled to increased payments and the tendency has been upward all the time. Three story bricks of ordinary make, rent for at least $1,000, and if the location be more central the price ranges from $1,200 to $1,500 per year. Four story brown stone fronts, with English basement attached, are held at $2,400, lowest price, and no diminution of these rates is probable or even contemplated this year. The *World* says that in the upper part of the city, near Prospect Park, a large number of houses suitable for small families, and costing, ground and all, not more than $4,500 are to be built in the spring and improvements are steadily leading out in that direction.

PERSONAL.

—Mr. Wilkie Collins and Mr. Charles Dickens are reported to clear, on an average, nearly fifty pounds sterling a night by the performance at the Adelphi Theatre, London, of "No Thoroughfare." After the expenses are paid, Mr. Fechter, Mr. Webster (the lessee of the theatre), and Messrs. Dickens and Collins share between them the takings. So there is no mistake as to the success of the piece on the stage, though the merits as a story are very generally denied. Mr. Fechter's acting is described as being consummately able. He has a part which is precisely cut out for him, and achieves his victory with ease.

—It having been stated that Archbishop Manning, of England, would probably be made a Cardinal, it is said there are two reasons why this should not be true; the first that there is a rule that there shall be only one Cardinal at a time in the British Isles, and the second that the Archbishop has not held the episcopal office long enough to entitle him to the honor.

—After Mr. Dickens left the President on Friday, he met in the ante-chamber Major General Frank Blair. At first neither recognized the other, but after the introduction, General Blair reminded Mr. Dickens of the fact that twenty-six years ago they met in St. Louis, and were in company on a hunting expedition on the prairies. Their meeting was exceedingly pleasant.

—A writer of French gossip says: The morbid apathy which of late had seized upon the people seems now to have reached the Emperor himself. He is growing heavy and inert,—his very countenance assuming a look of stolid perplexity, and his whole gait indicative of weariness and indifference. The place in history he was at first bent on conquering, is gone. Not one object to which he has aspired has he been able to secure; and it is strange that he should live to see them all crumble to pieces within his grasp. The Credit Mobilier, the Empire of Mexico, Italian unity, the great Exhibition, all have proved fallacious and delusive, and the shadow of the hope they once inspired alone remain. To those who remember the year of our blessed Lord 1848, the symptoms presented by the social political state of our city must seem identical with these belonging to that epoch. It was the numerous small vexations, the petty offenses preceding that event which formed the real basis of the great grievance, and swept away the dynasty of July as with a besom.

—Here is an interesting "personal" from the *Tribune's* Washington dispatch: "Those who have attended the receptions at the White House within the past two weeks have noticed a tall, handsome young man, with an eye as black as coal, heavy black eyebrows, and a luxuriance of curling black hair, who dresses in perfect taste, and is followed by the admiring glances of women as he moves through the throng. This is J. B. S., the latest of the correspondents honored with the confidence of the Executive. He is about the last man in the world who would be taken as the depository of State secrets, and about the first that women would fall in love with."

—Chicago has had a grand wedding. Mr. Chandler has espoused Miss Buckingham. Six bridemaids, dressed in white silk, waited upon the bride, whose dress was of white satin, with train *a la Imperatrice* and point-lace flounces. Her hair was beautifully adorned with orange flowers, and a coronet of gems and flowers wreathed her brow, from which suspended a cloud of illusion enveloping the whole figure. She looked charming, and as she stood before the altar her attitude and expression were the embodiment of *naivete* and beauty, says the *Times*, which occupies a column and more with a description of the ceremony, the presents, the reception, etc.

[From the Springfield (Mass.) Republican.]

Soldiers in Politics.

The journals of the country are engaged in an animated discussion of the expediency of electing military characters to office. Curiously enough, each arrives at results which harmonize with its proclivities. As well expect to see Mr. Baldwin's scientific researches leading him to the conclusion that the Hamitic tribes are incapable of any worthy achievements, or Mr. Brooks rising from his work convinced against his will that all the poets and philosophers of the next generation are to be something between sooty and jet black, as expect the *Tribune* to find the lines of evidence converging towards the policy of choosing a candidate from the profession of Gen. Harrison, Gen. Taylor, Gen. Scott and Col. Fremont. The *Tribune* probably finds it impossible to support a military candidate because it has already supported and urged so many.

We do not propose to travel over the whole ground of the discussion, and we will spare our readers the customary allusions to the Duke of Wellington's failure as Prime Minister, or Cromwell's brilliant adminstration of England. It is of still less consequence to us whether the intellectual characteristics and aptitudes developed in campaigns are not precisely those which qualify for civil duties. The question is not at all whether every soldier, or any soldier at random, is fitted for office, high or low, but whether any one certain man is disabled by military services from the post to which the voice of the nation is calling him. Without undertaking to add anything to the philosophy of the world on the subject either of civilian soldiers or military politicians, let three things be said in favor of Ulysses S. Grant.

First. He has displayed, beyond cavil, a penetration into character and a practical wisdom in the choice of subordinates, which no man since the great Napoleon has possessed. From the very first, when he was himself hardly known, he put his eye upon Thomas as among the best men of the army. Yet at that time the hero of Nashville had not as much popular reputaton as scores of men whose names are almost forgotten now. When Sherman was only known to the country as Crazy Sherman, Grant had taken him to his heart, made him the confidant of all his plans, and selected him to do the wonderful work he afterwards performed. When Sheridan was a Colonel of volunteer cavalry, the same incisive glance had marked the hero of the Shenandoah. To the immense disgust of other officers, gallant Phil was brought forward, measured for a coat with eighteen buttons, and put in command of a division of infantry, then of the Potomac horse, and sent galloping off to rout Stewart's cavalry and kill J. E. B. himself at Yellow Tavern. When the question came whom to send to the Valley, to change the miserable luck that for three years had there attended us, Hancock was the senior officer, far the most pretentious, and at that time had the greater popular reputation. But Grant knew better. Sheridan, before the war, had done more against the Indians with a squadron of horse than Hancock did last year with ten or fifteen thousand men. Which went to the Shenandoah? Trust Grant for that; he picks out the right man as lightning strikes the right tree, without stopping to ask the way. So was it with the great and good McPherson. So was it with the brilliant array of younger officers, who came up in the last years of the war, when Grant had command of the whole army. Now this is a great fact, we might almost say, the great fact, in all administration, civil or military. To organize and officer the State well is no less a step toward success than to organize and officer an army well. It is not so much what the President does in his own person, as the manner in which he distributes the posts of power and assigns the duties of others, that determines the efficiency of government.

Second. Grant has invariably displayed a greatness of soul that never yet went with littleness of mind. Walpole hated so to have a rival that he drove every brilliant man into opposition, and secured his own downfall because he would not share his glory. Of what subordinate, except General Butler, was Grant ever meanly jealous? Who has said as much as he in praise of Sheridan, Sherman, McPherson, Thomas, and Meade? Remember how he lay by with his gallant army, baffled before the fortifications of Petersburg, in the fall of 1864, when popular patience in vain goaded him to attack, when the press and the people began to demand his dismissal, and to stigmatize him "the butcher"—how, then, when Sheridan won his great victories in the valley, and every cap went up for Little Phil., Grant capped the whole by telegraphing that he had always regarded him as among the first of living generals—how, then, when Hood invaded Tennessee, the Lieutenant General gave Thomas all the men he could, and all the means, and contributed in every way to the splendid successes at Nashville, yet scrupulously refrained from doing anything to take the glory from Thomas, as he might have done by simply going on in person—how, then, when Sherman had gone

"From the center all around to the sea,"

Grant gave him a brother's welcome, "tenderly" covered his sad blunder at diplomacy, and presented him to the nation as the great strategist of the war. Now, it is possible that such a man as that could conduct a presidential administration like Andrew Johnson, James Buchanan, or Franklin Pierce; but it is not probable. No, it is not probable.

Third. Grant knows how to say No! He knows, also, how to say nothing. Why, the friend of President Lincoln does not pretend to justify many of his appointments, and many of his military and civil orders, on any other grounds than that the pressure of public sentiment, of popular feeling, of political influence at the national center is so powerful, so pitiless that human nature cannot resist it. Who suppose that any one of our last six Presidents wanted to do a tenth part of the abomminable things he did in the way of patronage? They have done it—and it has become one of the great facts of our politics—because they could not help themselves. Even Johnson, who prides himself on his firmness, has been hustled around like a boy in a mob. Grant can resist. Grant can help himself. He can show a scheming politician the door. He can refuse a delegation of office holders or office seekers. He can do as he has done—hold out against dictation and foil intrigue with his simple soldierly earnestness, and his silent, self-respectful resolution.

The qualities we have thus indicated certainly do not fill up the whole sphere of human character; but they will do for this once.

RAILROAD IMPROVEMENT.—The Columbus *Journal* says: We are informed that the Pittsburgh, Columbus and Cincinnati, and Baltimore and Ohio railroad companies are to build a joint round house in this city next spring. It is to be large enough to accommodate twenty-five locomotives, and is to be situated on the lot owned by these companies in Lazelle's addition to the city of Columbus; in connection with this improvement, each of the above companies propose to erect extensive shops on the same land.

At the New Year's reception of the Holy Father, the officers of the French army and the Papal Zouaves called on his Holiness, and indulged in the ceremony of kissing Pio Nono's foot. As the Pope saw Colonel d'Argy, commander of the famous Antibes Legion, a rather corpulent gentleman, coming up, he was afraid lest the Colonel's comfortable belly should render it difficult for him to kneel down, and exclaimed, "Colonel d'Argy, I exempt you from the requirements of the ceremonial." But the devout Colonel, saying, "No, Holy Father, it is my right," knelt down and kissed the Papal foot.

1868.

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Entering, as we now are, on the Presidential year, a preference for GEN. GRANT FOR THE PRESIDENCY has already been expressed. In this respect, the COMMERCIAL was one of the first to take a decided stand; and it has the satisfaction of having already seen its favorite the accepted of the great majority of the Republican party.

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HEIRS OF HENRY FISHER, Deceased.

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY. In the matter of the Estate of Mary Tweedy, deceased. No. 3, December Term, 1867. Writ of Partition on petition of Wm. Tweedy.

To Francis Tweedy and Thomas Tweedy, of Carroll county, Missouri, Robert Tweedy, of Lake county, Iowa, and Mrs. Mary Ann Kidd (formerly Mary Ann Tweedy), intermarried with John Kidd, of Indiana county, Pa.: You are hereby notified that an injunction will be held in pursuance of the above mentioned writ of partition or valuation, on the premises, being the tract of 104 acres and 8 perches and allowance, of which the said Mary Ann Tweedy died seized, situate in Patton (formerly Plum) township, Allegheny county, Pa., on THURSDAY, the 27th day of February, 1868, at 10 o'clock A. M., to make partition to and among the heirs of said deceased, in such manner and in such proportions as by the laws of this Commonwealth is directed, &c., at which time and place you may attend if you think proper.

SAMUEL B. CLULEY, Sheriff.

WANTED—AGENTS—For "Beyond the Mississippi;" A Complete History of the New States and Territories, from the Great River to the Great Ocean. By Albert D. Richardson. Its popularity is attested by the sale of over twenty thousand copies in one month. Life and Adventures on Prairies, Mountains and the Pacific Coast. With over 200 Descriptive and Photographic Views of the Scenery, Cities, Lands, Mines, People and Curiosities of the New States and Territories. To prospective emigrants and settlers in the "Far West," this History of that vast and fertile region will prove an invaluable assistance, supplying as it does a want long felt of a full, authentic and reliable guide to climate, soil, products, means of travel, &c., &c. Send for Circulars and see our Terms, and a full description of the work. Address National Publishing Co., Philadelphia, Penna.

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E. N. WILLARD,

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

SCRANTON, PA.

Refer to Hon. W. W. Ketcham, Jos. H. Scranton, Esq.

EXECUTORS' NOTICE.—THE UNDERSIGNED having been appointed Executors of the estate of EBENEZER CALDWELL, late of Elizabeth township, Allegheny county, Pa., deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same are requested to present them without delay.

JOSEPH WALL,
WILLIAM CALDWELL,
Executors.

Elizabeth Township, December 30, 1867. w6t

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